

Regulations for Local Councils' Election

Title and Introduction	1	(a)	This Regulation is made by Elections Commission under the Constitutional Act 10/2010, Section 27, Subsection (a) (Local Councils' Election Act) for holding elections to elect members for the local councils in order to govern the administrative divisions according to the system of decentralization.
		(b)	This Regulation is titled as "Regulation for Local Councils' Elections".
Managing and Conducting the Election	2		All activities relating to Local Councils' Elections shall be exclusively managed by the Elections Commission.
The National Advisory Committee for Elections	3	(a)	The Elections Commission can form an advisory committee to seek advice from; and discuss on the issues relating to Elections; if the need arises.
		(b)	<p>The National Advisory Committee for Elections shall comprise the representatives from the following entities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Political Parties who wish to participate in the committee from among those who compete in the election 2- Human Rights Commission of the Maldives 3- Civil Service Commission 4- Maldives Police Service 5- Department of National Registration 6- Local Government Authority 7- Maldives Media Council 8- Maldives broadcasting Commission 9- Anti-Corruption Commission 10- Prosecutor General's Office 11- One organization chosen by the Elections Commission from among the Voluntary Organizations
		(c)	An electoral candidate or his/her family cannot be a member of the National Advisory Committee for Elections.
		(d)	Criteria for the members of the National Advisory Committee

		<p>for Elections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Should be a Maldivian citizen 18 years and above. 2- Should not be someone observing the penalty of a criminal offence. 3- The person representing a political party that brings out a candidate for the Local Councils' Election should be a member of the respective party. 4- The representatives of the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives; Civil Service Commission; Maldives Media Council; Maldives Broadcasting Commission; and Anti-Corruption Commission should be a member of the respective commission. The member representing the Prosecutor Generals' Office should be an official holding the post of assistant prosecutor or a higher post. 5- The member representing a voluntary organization should be a senior member of that organization. 6- The member representing the Maldives Police Services should be an official holding the post of Assistant Commissioner or a higher post. 7- The member representing the Department of National Registration should be a person holding the post of a director or a higher post. 8- Should not have family relationship with a member or a staff of the Elections Commission.
		(e) The codes and standards that need to be adhered to, by the National Advisory Committee for Elections are attached in Annex 1 of this document.
		(f) The meetings of the National Advisory Committee shall be arranged and conducted by the Elections Commission.
		(g) If the need arises, these regulations do not object to, including a member who does not meet the description of the National Advisory Committee members, as mentioned in part (a) of this section.
Election Administration in Cities and Atolls	4	(a) The processes and procedures involved in the election of Local Councils in the Cities, Atolls, islands and at abroad, shall be managed and administered by the people appointed as focal points to the respective places, by the Elections Commission,

			under “Criteria for selecting and appointing focal points and their assistants for the Local Councils’ Election; and fixing of wages and allowances”. All matters concerning the election of local councils in Male’ City shall be managed by the respective sections of the Elections Commission.
		(b)	If for any reason, another senior official needs to be appointed from the City / Atoll / island in place of the focal point or his assistants, the Elections Commission has the authority to do so.
		(c)	If the Elections Commission wishes to alter the number of Focal Points and their Assistants mentioned in part (a) of this section), Elections Commission has the authority to do.
		(d)	Everyday activities that need to be carried out concerning the Local Councils’ Election in the islands will be performed in accordance with the instructions of the Atoll Election Focal Point by those that are appointed as focal points by the Elections Commission, in line with these Regulations.
		(e)	When voting is held in other countries, the everyday activities that need to be carried out concerning the Local Councils’ Election shall be performed in accordance with the instructions of the Elections Commission by the people who are appointed as focal points to those countries by the Elections Commission, in line with these Regulations.
		(f)	In every atoll, the Atoll Elections Focal Points shall be working at the Secretariat of the Atoll Council; and in the cities, except for Male’, they shall be working at the Secretariat of the City Council. The focal points for each inhabited island shall be working at the Secretariat of the Island Council. However, this point of the regulation does not object to arranging the focal points to work at some other place, if the Election Commissions wishes to.
		(g)	All focal points appointed shall have to sign on the declaration in Annex 2, on assuming their duties, in accordance with these Regulations.
The Role of the Island Focal Point	5		All activities related to the election of local councils at island level shall be carried out by the Island Elections Focal Point in accordance with the instructions of Atoll Elections Focal Point.
The Duties and Responsibilities of the Island Elections Focal Point	6	(a)	The responsibilities of the Island Elections Focal Point are as follows: 1- Coordinating and managing all activities related to Local Councils’ Election in the island, in line with the

		<p>Constitutional Acts: 11/2008 (The General Act on Elections) ; and 10/2010 (Act on Local Councils' Election); also, in line with the Regulations made under these Constitutional Acts; and in accordance with the instructions of the Atoll Elections Focal Point.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2- Receiving amendments to voters' list and informing the Elections Commission from time to time; assisting and cooperating with the Elections Commission and the Atoll Elections Focal Point in the task of checking and verifying the lists, to confirm if all the amendments have been made by the Elections Commission.3- Displaying the documents in public, on the islands, that are obligated by law to publish and disclose to the people; and those prepared and sent by the Elections Commission.4- Displaying the Voters' List in public, on the island when prepared and sent.5- Ensuring and maintaining the security of the voting grounds in collaboration with the Maldives Police Services when the voting is in progress.6- Making arrangements to provide fast medical care for elections officials involved in the election administration, in case of an emergency.7- Issuing the Entrance Pass accordingly, to the persons authorized by the Elections Commission.8- Ensuring that all Voting Centers proposed by the Elections Commission, have the capacity to conduct the Voting safely and securely; Counting of Votes; and Issuing the Results and thereby, make all necessary arrangements to carry out the aforementioned activities related to voting.9- Employing officials and assigning them the task in accordance with the instructions of the Atoll Elections Focal Point in appointing them to work by the ballot box.10- Receiving complaints related to election, and informing the Atoll Complaints Bureau accordingly, and also dealing with such complaints received before establishing the Complaints Bureau according to the instructions given by the Atoll Elections Focal Point.11- Making arrangements for the Island Elections Officials to travel to islands or locations where training is held in order to receive the respective training required.12- Safe keeping the ballot boxes and other equipment related
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		<p>to elections within the islands.</p> <p>13-Sending ballot boxes and other requisites to the Voting Centers duly.</p> <p>14-Sending elections officials to Voting Centers duly; ensuring that they reach the Voting Centers well in time; and ensuring that the responsibilities assigned to them are being carried out.</p> <p>15. Ensuring that the Voting Centers have sent the provisional result sheets to the places where they ought to be sent, soon after the voting process is concluded and the Provisional Results are announced.</p> <p>16- Sending all materials related to voting, to where it is instructed to, and according to the advice given by the Atoll Elections Focal Point, on completion of the voting process, and announcing of the Provisional Results.</p> <p>17- Ensuring that provisions have been made, with the advice of the Atoll Elections Focal Point, to cater for the meals to the elections officials on the day of voting.</p> <p>18- Making arrangements to send elections officials and materials related to voting, to the Voting Centers and bringing them back afterwards.</p> <p>19- Maintaining the documents giving financial details of the expenditure pertaining to the activities related to the election in the island, in line with the Constitutional Act 3/2006 (State Monetary Law and Regulation) and sending them to the Elections Commission on or before the due date.</p> <p>20- Sending the details of all expenditure pertaining to the elections to the Atoll Elections Focal Point in order to send them to the Elections Commission within 10 days when the election is over and the final results are announced.</p> <p>21- Planning and managing the activities of elections in the island in accordance with the instructions of the Atoll Elections Focal Point.</p> <p>22- Also, carrying out other tasks instructed by the Atoll Elections Focal Point that are needful for holding the election in the island besides those mentioned under this point of these Regulations; and informing the Atoll Elections Focal Point if there are issues that need to be brought to his attention immediately; and trying to solve them.</p>
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<p>The Duties of Atoll Elections Focal Point</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>(a) Acting as a mediator in facilitating the communication between Elections Commission, Secretariat of the Atoll Council and the Secretariat of the Island Council in order to hold the Local Councils' Election; instructing and giving advice to the Island Elections Focal Point in matters concerning the election; managing and monitoring all activities concerning the Local Councils' Election in the atoll; all come under the responsibility of the Atoll Elections Focal Point.</p>
		<p>(b) The roles and responsibilities of the Atoll Focal Point are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinating and managing all activities related to Local Councils' Election in the atoll, in line with the Constitutional Acts: 11/2008 (The General Act on Elections); and 10/2010 (Act on Local Councils Election); also, in line with the Regulations made under these Constitutional Acts; and in accordance with the instructions of the Elections Commission. 2. Organizing and arranging all activities related to Local Councils' Election according to the instructions given by the Elections Commission, such as receiving the applications from the candidates of the local council; sending out replies to candidates' application; taking draws among the candidates for arranging candidate names in order. 3. Displaying the documents in public on the islands, via the Island Elections Focal Point, that are obligated by law to publish and disclose to the people; and those prepared and sent by the Elections Commission. 4. Ensuring if the amendments to Voters' List received by the Island Focal Points are communicated duly to the Elections Commission; and making sure if these amendments are attended appropriately by the Elections Commission; and checking on the Island Elections Focal Point if he cooperates well with the Elections Commission in verifying the Voters' List; and coordinating these tasks. 5. Ensuring all Voting Centers, proposed by the Elections Commission, have the capacity to conduct the balloting safely and securely; counting of ballots; and issuing the results; and making the Voting Centers ready for voting. 6. Hiring and employing elections officials; and assigning them the tasks according to the instructions given by the Elections Commission; and administering the electoral

		<p>activities.</p> <p>7- Fixing a place for conducting the trainings and making the necessary arrangements to hold the training sessions.</p> <p>8- Making all arrangements such as food, accommodation, etc. for the trainers when they arrive at the training sites, according to the instructions given by the Elections Commission.</p> <p>9- Forming a Complaints Bureau comprising of 3 members, in accordance with the instructions of the Elections Commission, at the island where the secretariat of the Atoll Council is sited.</p> <p>10- Extending the help and assistance needed by the Island Elections Focal Point in carrying out the day to day activities concerning the electoral voting and counting of votes; and coordinating such activities.</p> <p>11- Making travel arrangements for the elections officials to go to the islands where the training sessions are held.</p> <p>12- Making arrangements for food and accommodation for the elections officials during their stay on the islands to attend the training sessions.</p> <p>13- Making the necessary arrangements for safe keeping of the ballot boxes and the security equipment used for voting in the islands; and ensuring that they are safe and sound.</p> <p>14- Sending the ballot boxes and other requisites duly to the voting centers ensuring their safety.</p> <p>15- Ensuring the security arrangements of the voting grounds in collaboration with the Maldives Police Services when the balloting is in progress.</p> <p>16- Making arrangements at the Voting Centers to provide fast medical care for elections officials, in case of an emergency.</p> <p>17- Ensuring that the Island Elections Focal Points have issued Entrance Passes accordingly, to the authorized persons by the Elections Commission.</p> <p>18- Providing assistance in fixing travel arrangements, accommodation and food for the foreign observers who travel to the atolls under the care of Elections Commission.</p> <p>19- Ensuring that provisions have been made to arrange meals for the elections officials on the day of voting.</p> <p>20- Sending all items related to voting, securely to a place that</p>
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			<p>had been fixed by the Elections Commission, when the voting is over and the results are announced.</p> <p>21- Maintaining documents giving financial details of the expenditure pertaining to the activities related to the election in the atoll, in line with the Constitutional Act 3/2006 (State Monetary Regulation) on finance of government expenditure and sending them to the Elections Commission on or before the due date.</p> <p>22- Sending the details of all expenses related to election along with the bills, to the Elections Commission, within 20 days after the work of election is over and the results of the election is announced; and also sending all election related materials to the Elections Commission within 45 days after the Final Results of the election are announced.</p> <p>23- Receiving and sending the complaints related to the elections from within the atoll and sending them to the National Elections Complaints Bureau from time to time, till the Atoll Complaints Bureau is formed.</p> <p>24- Sending everything from the islands related to election to the Elections Commission, without delay.</p> <p>25- Ensuring that arrangements have been made to send the provisional results to Elections Main Center.</p> <p>26- Ensuring that the provisional results have been sent to Elections Main Center duly.</p> <p>27- Doing other things besides those listed above, that the Elections Commission instructs to do, in order to conduct the election in the atoll; and to immediately bring to the notice of the Elections Commission if there is anything.</p>
The Role of the City Elections Focal Point	8		Each and every task carried out to hold the Local Councils' Elections in the City shall be managed and administered by the person appointed by the Elections Commission as the Elections Focal Point of that particular city, in accordance with the instructions given by the Elections Commission.
The Duties and Responsibilities of the City Elections Focal Point	9	(a)	<p>The roles and responsibilities of the City Focal Point are as follows:</p> <p>1- Coordinating and managing all activities related to Local Councils' Elections in the city, in line with the Constitutional Acts: 11/2008 (The General Act on Elections); and 10/2010 (Act on Local Councils Election); also, in line with the regulations made under these</p>

		<p>Constitutional Acts; and according to the instructions of the Elections Commission.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2- Organizing and arranging all activities related to Local Councils' Elections according to the instructions given by the Elections Commission, such as receiving the applications from the candidates of the local council; sending out replies to the candidates' application; taking draws among the candidates to arrange candidate names in order.3- Displaying the documents in public in the city that are obligated by law to publish and disclose to people; and the documents prepared and sent by the Elections Commission to publicize.4- Accepting the amendments to Voters' List and sending them duly to the Elections Commission; and making sure if these amendments are attended appropriately by the Elections Commission; and extending full cooperation and support to the Elections Commission in verifying the Voters' List.5- Ensuring all Voting Centers proposed by the Elections Commission have the capacity to conduct the voting safely and securely; counting of votes; and issuing the results; and getting these centers ready for voting.6- Hiring and employing elections officials; and assigning them the task as instructed by the Elections Commission; managing and administering the electoral activities.7. Making all necessary arrangements to conduct the training programs in the city.8- Forming the City Complaints Bureau, in accordance with the instructions of the Elections Commission.9- Coordinating and monitoring the day to day activities in the city, related to voting and vote counting.10- Making transport arrangements in the city for the elections officials to attend the training sessions.11- Making arrangements for food and accommodation for the elections officials while they attend the training sessions in the city.12- Making arrangements and ensuring that the ballot boxes and the security equipment are kept safely and securely.13- Sending the ballot boxes and other requisites duly to the Voting Centers ensuring their safety.14- Ensuring the security arrangements of the voting grounds
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			<p>in collaboration with the Maldives Police Services when the balloting is in progress.</p> <p>15- Making arrangements at the Voting Centers to provide fast medical care for elections officials, in case of an emergency.</p> <p>16- Issuing Entrance Passes accordingly, to the authorized persons by the Elections Commission.</p> <p>17-Providing assistance in fixing travel arrangements, accommodation and food for the foreign observers under the care of Elections Commission to the regions regarded as cities.</p> <p>18- Ensuring that provisions have been made to arrange meals for the elections officials on the day of voting.</p> <p>19- Sending all items related to voting, securely to a place that had been fixed by the Elections Commission, when the voting is over and the results are announced.</p> <p>20- Maintaining documents giving financial details of the expenditure pertaining to the activities related to the election in the city, in line with the Constitutional Act 3/2006 (State Monetary Act) and regulations on finance of government expenditure and sending them to the Elections Commission on or before the due date.</p> <p>21- Sending the details of all expenses related to election in the city along with the bills, to the Elections Commission, within 20 days after the work of election is over and the results of the election is announced; and also, sending all election related materials to the Elections Commission within 45 days after the official results of the election are announced.</p> <p>22- Receiving and sending the complaints related to elections from within the city and sending them to the National Elections Complaints Bureau from time to time, till the City Complaints Bureau is formed.</p> <p>23- Sending everything related to election to the Elections Commission, without delay.</p> <p>24- Sending the provisional results of the election to the Elections Main Center set by the Election Commission.</p> <p>25- Doing other things besides those listed above, that the Elections Commission instructs to do, in order to enhance the electoral activities in the city; and informing the Elections Commission regarding anything that needs to be</p>
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			<p>brought to their attention immediately.</p> <p>26- Coordinating the work of the Ward Focal Points on instances where focal points are appointed to the wards of the city.</p>
		(b)	<p>If a Focal Point is appointed to perform an activity concerning elections in a ward of a city, he or she will work by following the instructions and advice given by the City Elections Focal Point. The responsibilities mentioned here for the Island Elections Focal Point would be same as that of the Ward Elections Focal Point.</p>
Term of the Elections Focal Points	10		<p>The post of Elections Focal Points shall remain as such till the end of the term agreed between the Focal Points and the Elections Commission. If for any given reason either of the parties wishes to bring the agreement to an end, they would be able to do so, after giving a three-day notice. However, if a focal point violates the rules and regulations then, the Elections Commission has the authority to terminate the agreement made between the Focal Point and the Elections Commission.</p>
Voters' List	11		<p>Article 9 of the Constitutional Act 11/2008 (Act on General Election) mandates the Elections Commission to prepare and announce a Voters' List to the public.</p>
Sending in Complaints Regarding the Voters' List	12		<p>According to Article 10 of the Constitutional Act no. 11/2008 (Act on General Election), whoever wishes to send in a complaint about an information in the Voters' List or an important information that is missing in the Voters' List, or an amendment that needs to be made in order to correct the list, may proceed with it to the Island/Atoll/City Focal Point or the Elections Commission. Complaints are to be submitted using the form attached on Annex 3 of this document.</p>
Sending the Lodged Complaints Regarding Voters' List to the Elections Commission.	13	(a)	<p>Complaints received by the focal points with regard to Voters' List should be sent to the Elections Commission from time to time.</p>
		(b)	<p>The information with respect to the complaints forwarded to the Election Commission, should be recorded duly at the Elections Commission specifying the nature of the complaints</p>

			along with the actions that had been taken.
		(c)	Only the people whose names are enlisted on the Voters' List shall be allowed to vote in the Local Councils' Elections.
Issuing and Using of Voters' List	14	(a)	If the candidates of the Local Councils' Election or the Political parties requested for the Voters' List, they may be given a copy of the Voters' List issued publicly on the gazette according to the terms specified by the Elections Commission, and such a list should have only the names and permanent addresses of the voters.
		(b)	The Voters' List or the information provided on the Voters' List should be used only for election purposes. It is strictly prohibited to use the Voters' List or the information contained in the Voters' List for any other purpose.
Registering to Vote at a Voting Centre different from Where One had been Registered to Vote	15	(a)	If a voter decides to vote at a center other than his/her registered place of voting, then s/he has to send in his/her information to the Elections Commission or to a place specified by the Commission, within the given period of time. To do this, voters have to follow the procedures announced publicly by the Elections Commission and use the form attached in the Annex 4 of this document. Also, voters should pay attention to provide all information asked on this form. The person who comes to submit this form should bring the original of an unexpired official document (acceptable for voting) that would prove his/her identity. A duplicate copy of an unexpired official document (acceptable for voting) that would prove the identity of the voter should be attached with the form. The form shall be officially accepted by Elections Commission if the person who comes to submit the form assumes full responsibility of it. Forms sent by political parties and other institutions should have the responsibilities borne by the signatory of the letters sent with the forms. Forms that are sent directly to the Elections Commission via email or fax will not be accepted.
		(b)	In reference to part (a) of this point, if a voter decides to stay in a place other than his registered place of voting on the day of the election, and if it happens to be a place where the Elections Commission had decided to keep a ballot box, and when the voter proposes to register at that particular place, within the time frame allotted by the Elections Commission, his/her name has to be registered to enable him/her to vote there, and all necessary arrangements to facilitate his/her voting have to be made at that Voting Center.

		(c)	In reference to (a) of this point, if a voter informs the Elections Commission that s/he would be staying in a place other than his/her registered place of voting on the day of the election, and has completed the voter registration, then s/he cannot vote in any other place except for the place that s/he has been registered to vote for this election.
		(d)	The list of the people who voted for the Local Council Election should not be given to anyone except under a court order.
Announcing in Public for Council Election	16	(a)	Section 9 of the Constitutional Act 10/2010 (Local Councils' Election Act) mandates the Elections Commission to publicly announce that the opportunity has been open for those who wish to apply for candidacy in the Local Councils' Election.
Applying for Candidacy in the Local Councils' Election	17	(a)	In the public announcement made by the Elections Commission, under part (a) of section 16 of this regulation, the Elections Commission should allow a period of 14 (fourteen) days for those who wish to apply for candidacy in the Local Councils' Election, to send in their application using the form in the Annex 5 of this document.
		(b)	According to Section numbers: 16, 17 and 18 of the Constitutional Act, 11/2008 (General Act on Election) and Article numbers: 9, 10, 12 and 15 of the Constitutional Act, 10/2010 (Act on Local Council Election), the applicant should provide his/her contact number; address to which official notices could be sent; and an email address if there is one; together with the supporting documents and information required for the application of candidacy, along with his application form.
		(c)	While proposing Campaign Logos for approval, if two or more people have proposed the same logos, priority will be given to those that have been proposed earlier. Candidates representing political parties can use the party logos for campaigning if approved by his/her party.
Withdrawal of Candidacy	18		If an applicant, among those who have applied, wishes to withdraw their names after having taken the draw, before the rank order of their names are announced to the public, s/he is allowed to do so, at any time and as they wish.
Submitting and Returning of Deposit Money	19	(a)	The deposit money of 1500/ Rufiyaa, mandated by Subsection 1, Section 17 of the Constitutional Act, 11/2008 (General Act on Election) and part b), Article 15 of the Constitutional Act

			10/2010 (Act on Local Council Election) to be paid by the applicants, should be paid in cash or by a bank guaranteed cheque.
		(b)	Candidates, who get less than 10% of the votes from the area s/he competed, shall not be returned the deposit money.
		(c)	If an applicant asks for withdrawal of his/her name before announcing the candidate names, Elections Commission should return the deposit money mentioned in part (a) of this point, to him/her within 5 days from the date of his/her claim to withdraw. Each of the candidates should provide the name and account number of an account opened at a bank in the Maldives, along with his/her application form, for returning the deposit money the candidate is entitled to receive.
Ranking the Candidate Names	20	(a)	The Elections Commission should announce in public, the venue, time, and date on which the draw for ranking the candidate names shall be held among the applicants of the Local Councils' Election who meet the terms and conditions to compete in the election.
		(b)	The draw, mentioned in part (a) of this section, should be taken in the presence of the candidates or their representatives.
		(c)	If a candidate assigns a representative (as mentioned in part (b) of this point) s/he should be sent for taking the draw with the candidate's valid national IC and a document attesting that s/he has been appointed as the candidate's representative. Also, the document should contain the representative's full name, address and his national IC number.
		(d)	In case, the candidate or his/her representative failed to be present for taking the draw, a person from among the organizers will take part in the draw on his/her behalf.
Announcing the Candidate Names	21	(a)	Candidate names of the Local Councils' Election should be announced after taking a draw and ranking the candidate names, within 21 days from the due date of submitting the candidate applications. The following information about the candidates should be included: 1) Full name and permanent address 2) Name of the political party if the candidate represents one 3) If it is an individual candidate, should mention as such
Campaigning to Win Public	22	(a)	The article 28 of the Constitutional Act 11/2008 (The General Act for Elections) grants the right to campaign to the people

Support			who apply for candidacy in the Local Councils' Election, as they wish, in order to win public support.
		(b)	<p>Under the rights granted to the candidates of the Local Councils' Election, by section (a) of this point, the following things could be done in order to win public support:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting the public and talking to them to gain their support 2. Holding gatherings peacefully 3. Utilizing media resources 4. Sending letters to people to gain their support, distributing photographs, stickers and leaflets, etc. and displaying them in public 5. Using signs, symbols and various items with their signs and symbols on it 6. Advertising, using billboards, posters, etc. 7. Holding stage shows 8. Holding rallies and vehicle rides 9. Using internet and social media
Code of Conduct for the People Who Work to Win Public Support	23	(a)	<p>All those who work to win public support for the candidates should adhere to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. They should not persuade to vote or dissuade not to vote for a candidate just because the candidate is: a male or female; follows a certain sect of Islam; or speaks in a certain dialect of Dhivehi Language. 2. Any activity or gathering aimed at winning support for the candidate or for a political party should not be held within the premises of a mosque or in the courtyard of the mosque neither should a health center or its courtyard be used for this purpose. 3. No message should be delivered in a religious function, or in a religious preaching or in a sermon which implies the intent of gaining public support for a candidate or a political party. 4. No effort should be made to increase support for a candidate or a political party; or to lessen the support for a candidate; through lessons delivered in an educational institution, school, college or university. 5. The office premises or office courtyards should not be utilized for holding any activities for the purpose of campaigning for the candidates or political parties except for the educational institutions and social centers. The conference halls or courtyards of educational institutions could be used for campaigning activities with permission.

			<p>The permission to use such places should be granted fairly to all those who request for campaigning without creating any hindrance to the services rendered from these institutions or centers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. No candidate or his/her supporters should act in a way that interferes a gathering held to promote another candidate.7. No candidate or his supporters should tear or damage posters, symbols or anything that symbolizes another candidate.8. When a candidate or a political party to which a candidate belongs, holds a campaign gathering at a certain place, another candidate who belongs to a different party or his/her supporters should not arrange a campaign gathering in the same place during that time. However, the same party, or several parties or several candidates together, can arrange campaign activities at the same time in the same place.9. Anything related to gaining support for the candidates should be fixed on a private home, building or plot of land only with the owner's permission. If a public building or place is involved, the permission must be granted fairly and consistently to all candidates or supporters who requests for this permission.10. Advertisements, billboards and banners that have been put up with permission, in order to win support and popularity, should be removed and the place should be cleaned within 10 days' time starting from the date on which the election results are announced.11. In case, someone or a group of people disturb an ongoing campaign activity and breaks the peace and harmony in the place, the matter should be reported to the police or the concerned authorities instead of taking the law into their own hands.12. In the efforts of gaining support for a candidate, no one should do anything to harm the name and reputation of a candidate.13. No one should intimidate and force a voter to vote or to not vote for any candidate.14. No one should bribe a voter to vote for or against any candidate nor should a voter be offered financial or material benefits nor should s/he be promised to give anything even afterwards.15. No one should utter anything against the principles of Islam
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			<p>or do anything to disrespect the religion of Islam while campaigning to win public support.</p> <p>16. Nothing should be done against the Constitutional Acts; or rules and regulations made in line with the written laws in the Maldives, while campaigning to win public support.</p>
		(b)	<p>No one should do anything that would harm the rights of a candidate in the process of supporting or not supporting a candidate or a political party. If any of the following has been done, it could be regarded as an act of harming the electoral rights of a candidate.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meddling with the affairs of a candidate's personal and private life while proceeding with a talk of campaigning or by other means. 2. Putting allegations that could not be proved in a law court; or talking about a candidate or an agent of a candidate or a political party in a manner that would misinterpret and misguide something that happened in the past. 3. A candidate or his/her supporters obstructing the shows; rallies; or vehicle rounds; organized by another candidate or supporters of a candidate.
Appointing Candidates' Representatives	24	(a)	<p>Every candidate can appoint his/her representative, one to each center, on the day of voting to observe the Voting as well as the Vote Counting at the Voting Centers that concerns him/her.</p>
		(b)	<p>The opportunity to appoint a candidate's representative, as mentioned in part a) of this section, shall be granted to those candidates who apply for it within the given period of time, when the Election Commission announces for this. Candidates have to apply for this on the form given in Annex 6 of this document.</p>
		(c)	<p>The local observers proposed for observing the elections should meet the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Should be 18 years of age 2. Should not be a person observing a penalty followed by a court sentence for committing a criminal act. 3. Should have the voting right for Local Councils' Election. 4. Should not be an official who is entrusted with some duties or tasks by Elections Commission pertaining to Local

			<p>Councils' Election.</p> <p>5. Should not be the judge of a law court; or the chairman or member of an Independent Commission.</p> <p>6. Should not be a person taken into custody on suspect of a crime.</p> <p>7. Should not be a member of Maldives Police Service or a member of National Defense Force.</p>
		(d)	The representatives of the candidates must sign the declaration on the Annex 7 of this document and they must act in line with the Code of Conduct for the candidate's representatives.
Observing the Election by Maldivian Observers	25	(a)	The permission to act as observers of the election shall be granted according to Section 40, Subsection (a) of the Constitutional Act 11/2008 (The General Act for Elections), to those who meet the criteria, among the Maldivians who apply when the Elections Commission announces to apply for it. Applications can be sent using the form in Annex 8.
		(b)	<p>The Maldivians, who propose to be observers of the Local Council Election should meet the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Should be 18 years of age. 2. Should not be observing a penalty followed by a court sentence for committing a criminal act. 3. A person proposed by a civil society; or a private member not representing a political party, should not have his/her name in the registry of any political party. 4. Should have the voting right for Local Councils' Election. 5. Should not be an official who is entrusted by the Election Commission with some duties or tasks of the Local Councils' Election.
		(c)	The people who wish to observe the Local Council Election must sign the declaration on Annex 7 of this Regulation and they must act in line with the Code of Conduct for the Observers.
		(d)	The Observer's Pass that is given to the political parties, civil societies or associations should be given to their observers in accordance with the instructions of the Elections Commission.
		(e)	Each of the political parties as well as the associations shall be given Observer Passes on the ratio which does not exceed 10%

			of the number of ballot boxes kept for voting.
		(f)	While an observer belonging to a certain political party or association is present at a Voting Center, a second observer representing the same party or association is not allowed to enter the Voting Center.
		(g)	Although it is stated in subsection e) of this section, observers can enter the Voting Center according to the capacity of the place.
Observing the Election by International Observers	26	(a)	<p>The international associations, societies; as well as other foreign persons invited by the Elections Commission shall be granted the permission to act as observers in the Local Council Election, according to section 40, subsection (a) of the Constitutional Act 11/2008 (The General Act for Elections), if they apply for it when the Elections Commission publicly announces to send in applications, and provided that they meet the following criteria. The applications should be sent using the form in Annex 9 of this document.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Should be 18 years 18 years of age 2. Representatives of international associations and societies related to electoral activities accredited by the associations they belong to. 3. People who are not involved in campaigning to win support for any candidate or any political party.
Monitoring	27	(a)	<p>People who could be granted the authority to act in monitoring the voting as well as vote counting in the Local Councils' Election, would be those who apply for it, within the given period of time, when announced to do so, and those who meet the following criteria. To apply for it, Maldivians shall use the form in Annex 10 of this document while International Monitors shall use the form in Annex 9.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Should be 18 years of age 2. Should not be observing a penalty followed by a court sentence for committing a criminal act. 3. a) A person as to whom the Elections Commission receives assurance that s/he works in a radio/television station registered at Maldives Broadcasting Commission; or b) A person as to whom the Elections Commission receives assurance that s/he works for a newspaper or magazine

			<p>registered under the Constitutional Act 47/78 (Act on newspapers and magazines); or</p> <p>c) A person as to whom the Elections Commission receives assurance that s/he belongs to an international media group.</p> <p>4. Should not be an official who is entrusted by the Election Commission with some duties or tasks of the Local Councils' Election.</p>
		(b)	<p>People who act as Monitors of the Local Councils' Election should act in accordance with section 41 of the Constitutional Act, 11/2008 (General Act on Elections) as well as in line with these regulations.</p>
		(c)	<p>People who act as Monitors of the Local Councils' Election must sign on the Declaration given on Annex 7 and also, act in line with the Code of Conduct for the Monitors.</p>
		(d)	<p>The Monitor's Passes that are given to the Offices of Newspapers and Magazines should be given to them in accordance with the instructions of the Elections Commission.</p>
		(e)	<p>Each of the registered newspapers offices as well as the offices of media groups shall be given Observer Passes on the ratio which does not exceed 10% of the number of ballot boxes kept for voting.</p>
Guidance for the Candidates' Representatives, Observers and Monitors	28	(a)	<p>People involved in observing the processes of the Local Election should stick closely to the Code of Conduct stated on Annex 11.</p>
		(b)	<p>Observers, Monitors and Representatives of candidates can jot down the facts and figures they need while the Voting and Vote Counting are in progress.</p>
		(c)	<p>If the Monitors, Observers or Representatives of Candidates request the official in-charge of the Voting Center to disclose the number of people voted up to that time and the remaining ballot papers, s/he should share this information with them.</p>
		(d)	<p>Monitors, Observers or Representatives of Candidates should extend their full cooperation and provide assistance to the officials of Elections Commission in all matters concerning the election. However, they should not attempt to have any</p>

			influence on the officials.
		(e)	An Election's Official, an Observer, a Monitor or a Representative of a Candidate should not help a physically disabled person to put the tick on the ballot paper.
Observers, Monitors & Candidates' Representatives Following the Rules and Regulations	29		If an Observer, a Monitor or a Representative of a Candidate violated or was found trying to do something against the Constitutional Act 11/2008 (General Act on Elections) or the Constitutional Act 10/2010 (Local Council Elections) or these Regulations, then the person in-charge of the Voting Center has the authority to withdraw his or her Entry Pass and inform him or her to leave the Voting Center. And if the person did not obey the in-charge's orders then, the security forces should seize his or her Entry Pass and send the person out from the Voting Center.
Making the Necessary Arrangements to Hold the Voting	30	(a)	The person appointed by the Elections Commission should make the necessary arrangements to take everything to the Voting Center that are needed to conduct the voting, through the elections officials, well before the voting begins.
		(b)	Each of the Voting Centers should have a list of names of the people that have been registered to vote in that Voting Center. The Voters' List should have the voters' names, addresses, sex, atolls, islands, date of birth and their IC numbers provided on it.
Determining the Place to Keep the Ballot Boxes	31	(a)	The Elections Commission has to decide on the number of ballot boxes; the Voting Centers where the ballot boxes have to be placed, based on the number of people who have registered for voting in that island; decide on the list of voters who will be voting in each of the Voting Centers separately; and announce it in public.
Voting Booth	32	(a)	In each of the Voting Centers, there has to be at least one Voting Booth for the voters to put the tick on the ballot papers. The Voting Booth has to be placed in such a way that the ticks put by the voters are hidden from the eyes of the people around.
		(b)	The Voting Booth must be placed at a point where it could be easily seen by the observers and officials in the Voting Center in case, the voter does anything (against the rules and regulations such as taking a snap shot of the ticked ballot paper) s/he would be seen or noticed by the observers and

			officials.
The Duties and Responsibilities of the Officials Who Look After the Voting and Vote Counting	33	(a)	As stated in the Elections Commission’s approved Handbook of the Officials Working in the Voting Center, the officials who are assigned to look after the Voting and Vote Counting must assume the responsibilities as such.
		(b)	In order to assume the responsibilities of looking after the Voting and Vote Counting, the officials assigned must sign the Declaration on Annex 2 of this document.
The Duties and Responsibilities of the Voting Center In-charge	34	(a)	<p>The duties and responsibilities assigned to the In-charge of the Voting Center, by the Election Commission or by the person appointed by the Elections Commission, must be carried out with much care. The following are the duties and responsibilities of the In-charge at the Voting Center:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Being in charge of the Ballot Box of a Voting Center along with the materials and the important documents needed to hold the voting; safekeeping them; and assuming its accountability. 2. Organizing and delegating the tasks to make the necessary arrangements in preparation for the voting at the Voting Center. 3. Meeting the elections officials well in advance of the voting day in order to brief them on their tasks; guide them on their individual duties; and delegate the work. 4. Opening the security envelope 15 minutes before the voting is scheduled to commence; and counting the ballot papers to be sure about the number of ballot papers it contains. 5. Opening the ballot box before commencing the voting, in the presence of the first two voters; candidates’ representatives (if they are present there); and the authorized observers and monitors; and then, placing the lid of the ballot box securely with full-tight seals fastened on all four sides after making sure that the ballot box is completely empty. 6. Providing opportunities for the people approved by the

		<p>Elections Commission to enter the Voting Center, in line with the Laws and Regulations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Making arrangements for officials, sent by the Elections Commission, to enter the Voting Center when the need arises. (However, any such person should be allowed to enter the Voting Center only after confirming that s/he is a person authorized by the Elections Commission) 8. Making sure that voting is going on, in line with the pertinent Laws and Regulations. 9. Examining the people who claim to be physically disabled for voting in order to confirm their disability; and allowing such people to seek help from another, to complete the voting task. 10. Accepting the complaints proposed at the Voting Center on the day of voting, by Voters, Observers and Monitors; and attending such complaints then and there. 11. Deciding on valid and invalid votes with reference to the guidelines made by Elections Commission. 12. Deciding on the Provisional Results of the voting and announcing it. 13. Completing the paperwork that has to be done from the Voting Center. 14. Wrapping up and handing over the ballot papers and other documents used in the voting to the person appointed by the Election Commission, when the Voting and Vote Counting is over. 15. Displaying the Provisional Results to public at the Voting Center and sending these results to the Election Commission in line with the procedures set by the Elections Commission. 16. Doing everything possible to help the voting process go smoothly and peacefully at the Voting Center. 17. Taking precautions and all measures needful, to maintain peace and harmony in the Voting Center during the time of Voting as well as Vote Counting.
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			<p>18. Seeking assistance from Maldives Police Service if felt needful, to stop any act of violation of Laws and Regulations, within the Voting Center.</p> <p>19. Providing the information stated in the Laws and Regulations pertaining to election, on demand of the Candidates' Representatives, Observers or Monitors.</p> <p>20. Compiling a report on the proceedings that took place at the Voting Center from the time at which the voting commenced till it ended; getting the signatures of the In-charge of Voting Center (ballot box in-charge), the person who compiled the report, as well as the one who checked it; and sending it to the Main Center of Elections in Male'.</p> <p>21. Seeking the advice of the Elections Commission or the official appointed by the Election Commission to do anything in addition to what have been mentioned above; in order to carry out the Voting process; Vote Counting; and Announcing of Vote Results; in line with the Laws and Regulations pertaining to elections.</p>
Providing Assistance for the Physically Disabled, to Put the Tick on the Ballot Paper	35	(a)	The elections officials must write down the name, address, and national IC number of the person who helped the physically disabled people to put the tick mark on the ballot paper in order to make sure that each person helps only one voter among the disabled.
		(b)	<p>Only the following people would be provided assistance in putting the tick mark on the ballot paper assuming that they are physically unable to do it.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blind people or people whose eye sight is so bad that they are unable to put a tick mark on the ballot paper themselves. 2. People who cannot use either of their hands 3. People who are too old and weak to put the tick mark on the ballot paper with their own hands. 4. People who are too ill to put the tick mark on the ballot paper.
		(c)	The In-charge of the Voting Center must not allow someone, the option of taking help from another, under the assumption that s/he is physically disabled, while the person actually does

			have the ability to put the tick mark on the ballot paper.
		(d)	As stated in part (a) of this section, only people who had been registered to vote in that Voting Center are allowed to help a disable person to vote.
		(e)	An official involved in holding the election in a Voting Center; a Candidate; a Candidate's Representative; an Observer; or a Monitor; should not help a disabled person to vote as mentioned in part (a) of this point.
Showing an Official Document to Prove One's Identity	36		The voter must show an official document (national IC, passport, driving license with photograph and national IC number imprinted on it) to prove his/her identity. Any document submitted in this respect, should be a valid, unexpired document. Voters will be allowed to vote only after his or her identity has been confirmed with the help of the photograph in the document s/he produces.
Invalid Votes	37		<p>If the voted ballot papers appears in any of the following forms would be considered invalid:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Voted on a paper other than the ballot paper prepared by the Elections Commission for the election 2. Ballot papers which has no tick mark [✓] against any of the candidates 3. Ballot papers with tick marks [✓] next to candidates more than the number of members to be elected for the council of the island; council of the atoll; or council of the city in that area. 4. Ballot papers which cannot be decided with certainty as to which candidate the person has voted. 5. Votes that have been cast against the Constitutional Laws. 6. Ballot papers that do not have any tick mark.
Valid Votes	38	(a)	<p>Votes that would be counted as valid are those described below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ballot papers that have less or equal number of tick [✓] to the number of candidates to be elected for that particular council 2. Ballot papers that contain tick [✓] in less or equal number than the number of candidates to be elected for that particular council where the tick [✓] placed on the ballot paper could be decided as correct with certainty. 3. Ballot papers containing tick [✓] that are not put in the

			<p>same direction or not of the same size; but still the [✓] put against the candidate names could be decided as an acceptable style of a tick [✓].</p> <p>4. Ballot papers with tick [✓] placed outside the place holders which however, contain right or less number of tick [✓], than the number to be elected.</p>
		(b)	If a dispute arises among the officials appointed for counting the votes in deciding a particular vote to be valid or not, then the final decision has to be taken by the In-charge of the Voting Center.
Announcing of the Provisional Results	39	(a)	Once the Voting Centers announce the results and send these results to the Main Center of Voting in Male', the Election Commission must announce the Provisional Results based on the results of the Voting Centers.
		(b)	The Provisional Results mentioned in part (a) of this section should be announced by the Election Commission only after confirming that the results received by the commission are exactly the same as the results that had been announced from the Voting Centers.
Announcing of the Final Results	40	(a)	The Election Commission has to announce in public, the Final Results of the Local Council Election and send it to upload on the gazette, within 14 days of the electoral voting.
		(b)	Before announcing the Final Results as stated in part (a) of this point, the provisional result sheets sent from the Voting Centers have to be checked carefully to see if they tallied with the Voters' Lists sent later to the Main Voting Center in Male'.
Opening the Special Security Envelopes	41		<p>The Special Security Envelope in which the ballot papers of the people who voted are securely wrapped in, could be opened and counted again by the Elections Commission in the following circumstances:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When some issues have been discovered in the preparation of Provisional Results of a Voting Center; and the Election Commission decides to open the Security Envelopes and count them once again. 2. When the Election Commission is convinced that some complaints received regarding the results of a particular Voting Center have ample evidence to conduct an

			<p>investigation.</p> <p>3. When a court issues an order upon the Elections Commission to open the Special Security Envelope in which the ballot papers have been securely wrapped in.</p> <p>4. When the Election Commission decides to open a Special Security Envelope due to other circumstances where the Elections Commission doubts about the reliability of the results.</p>
Instructions on How to Open the Special Security Envelopes	42	(a)	The Special Security Envelopes in which the voted ballot papers have been packed should be opened in the presence of the candidates or the candidates' representatives, by the people appointed by the Elections Commission to do it. The people appointed for this should not do anything that would harm the electoral rights of any candidate. Also, they should not share any information they gain in the process of counting the votes to anyone except with the Elections Commission and the people present around the place where the Vote Counting is conducted. However, revealing of such information to a court under obligation is an exception to this.
		(b)	If the Special Security Envelope is to be opened for any reason as mentioned in part (a) of this section, the candidates who competed in the Local Council Election for that area should be informed the place and time of opening of the Special Security Envelope 3 hours in advance, through fax, email, sms or letter.
		(c)	If the Security Envelope is to be opened for any reason as mentioned in section (a), the permission to enter the place where the Vote Counting is held, should be granted to the candidates or their representatives.
		(d)	<p>A report has to be compiled and submitted to the Elections Commission describing the procedures involved in opening the Special Security Envelope and Recounting of Votes incorporating the below mentioned information; and signed by the person In-charge of that task; the person who compiled the report; and the person who checked it.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number assigned to the Voting Center 2. Time, place and venue where the Security Envelope was opened 3. Starting Time and Finishing Time of recounting the ballot papers in the Security Envelope

			<p>4. Time of Closing the Security Envelope after recounting</p> <p>5. Names, addresses and the national IC numbers of the people appointed for carrying out the recounting</p> <p>6. Names, addresses and the national IC numbers of the Candidates or their Representatives if any of them attended to witness the task of opening the security envelope</p> <p>7. Number of valid votes in the Security Envelope</p> <p>8. Invalid votes</p> <p>9. Number of votes each of the candidates received</p>
		(e)	If the Provisional Results announced need to be cancelled following the recounting, then the Provisional Results should be announced one more time.
		(f)	No one should do anything that would cause hindrance to the work of the people appointed for opening the Security Envelope and recounting the votes; and no one should touch the documents or materials related to this work except for the people appointed for that.
		(h)	If a Candidate or the Representative of a Candidate or a Political Party that competed in the election demands for the report mentioned in part d) of this section, the Election Commission should give them a copy of this report.
Closing the Security Envelope Again	43		Once the need for opening the Special Security Envelope is fulfilled, the ballot papers should be securely packed in the Special Security Envelope.
The Code of Conduct for the officials who are involved in the activities of the Local Council Election	44		<p>Permanent as well as temporary staff of the Elections Commission's office; the committees appointed to carry out the tasks of the Local Councils Election; and members of bureaus; focal points; officials appointed to work in the Voting Centers; and others who are assigned tasks related to the Local Councils' Election; have to adhere to the Code of Conduct listed below:</p> <p>1. Carrying out the duties and responsibilities closely in line with: the Constitution of Maldives; Constitutional Act 11/2008 (General Act on Elections); Constitutional Act 10/2010 (Act on Local Council Election); the Regulations made under these Acts of law; and the Policies and Guidelines made by the Elections Commission to carry out</p>

			<p>the activities of the elections.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Not doing anything that would harm the rights given by the Constitution to: Voters; Candidates; Candidates' Representatives; Observers; Monitors; or Political Parties. 3. Carrying out the tasks of Local Councils' Election that are assigned by the Election Commission with honesty and integrity 4. Not to be under the influence of anyone while carrying out the tasks of the election. 5. Not to be inclined towards a certain candidate or towards someone who support or does not support a candidate. 6. All elections officials should be impartial or unbiased in their work on assuming the duties and responsibilities of managing the activities of the Local Councils' Election. 7. Work wholeheartedly to make the Local Councils' Election a transparent, free and fair election.
Establishing Elections Complaints Bureaus	45	(a)	A National Elections Complaints Bureau comprising of 7 members has to be established to deal with the complaints raised regarding the Local Councils' Election as soon as the announcement is made to apply for candidacy; and a City/Atoll Complaints Bureau comprising of 3 members has to be established in each city/atoll 10 days before the Voting is held. When the Complaint Bureaus are formed, the place where each of the bureaus is sited; the contact numbers; email addresses; and the opening hours of the bureaus; should be announced to the public.
		(b)	At least, three out of the seven members in the National Elections Complaints Bureau should come from an academic background pertaining to Legal affairs or people who have acquired experience in the field of Constitutional Law. In case, people from Legal Backgrounds are not available to meet the desired numbers, the Elections Commission has the authority to form the bureau with people from other walks of life.
		(c)	The three members for the City/Atoll Complaints Bureau shall be appointed by the Atoll/City Focal Points with the advice of the Elections Commission. One among the three members in the Atoll/City Complaints Bureau should be a person from Legal Academic Background or one who is experienced in the field of Legal Affairs. If a legal person is not available, Elections Commission has the right to form the Atoll/City

			Complaints Bureau by including people from others walks of life.
		(d)	The Island/Atoll/City Elections Focal Point shall receive all complaints from the islands/atolls/cities related to Local Councils' Election and take the necessary steps wherever possible until the Complaints Bureaus are formed. Also, if a matter needs to be sent to the Elections Commission, it will be sent by the Atoll/City Focal Point.
Accepting Complaints by the Focal Points		(a)	If the Island Elections Focal Point receives a complaint, the matter should be dealt with as routine tasks. If the Island Elections Focal Point cannot solve the problem s/he can seek the advice of the Atoll Complaints Bureau if it has been established, if not then, s/he can seek the advice of the Elections Commission .
		(b)	If the Atoll Elections Focal Point or City Elections Focal Point receives a complaint regarding Local Council Elections before the establishment of Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureau, the Atoll/City Elections Focal Point shall act in accordance with the advice given by the National Elections Complaints Bureau. However, s/he has to act in accordance with the advice of the Atoll/City Elections Complaint Bureau once it is established.
		(c)	If it is in Male' all complaints regarding the Local Council Elections should be taken to the Secretariat of the Elections Commission.
The Terms of Complaints Bureaus	47	(a)	The National Elections Complaints Bureau shall remain from the day it is formed till fourteen-day duration is over after the final results of the elections are announced. In case, the election has to go for a second round, National Elections Complaint Bureau shall remain for a duration of 14 days after the second round of the election is completed and the Final Results are announced.
		(b)	The work of the Atoll / City Elections Complain Bureaus shall be in progress, commencing from 10 days prior to the voting of Local Councils' Election for a duration of additional 7 days following the elections. In case, the election has to go for a second round, Atoll / City Elections Complaint Bureau shall remain for 7 days after the second round of the election is completed and the final results are announced.

		(c)	If there is an unsolved, ongoing issue in a complaint bureau which has been proposed after the election, the Elections Commission can extend the term of that bureau till the issue is solved.
The Ballot Box In-Charge and Complaints Officer		(a)	The responsibility of the Complaints Officer attending the issues reported to the Complaints Bureau shall be carried out by the Ballot Box In-charge at each of the Voting Centers.
		(b)	The Complaints Officer will deal with all complaints received to the Voting Center on the day of voting and will solve them. S/he will seek advice from the Island Elections Focal Point or from the Secretariat of the Elections Commission with regard to the issues that s/he cannot solve. If it is at abroad, s/he can seek advice from the Elections Focal Point in that region.
		(c)	If not satisfied with the decisions made by the Ballot Box In-charge or Complaints Officer with regard to the issues raised at the Voting Center on the day of voting, the matter can be reported to the Island Elections Focal Point or Atoll / City Complaints Bureau. If it is in Male', complaints may be reported to the Secretariat of the Elections Commission.
Sending of Complaints	49	(a)	Complaints raised with regard to the Local Councils' Election shall be reported to Island Elections Focal Point; Atoll or City Elections Focal Points; or Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureaus; or to the Secretariat of the Elections Commission. In this respect, the complaints sent from within the island should be usually taken to the Elections Focal Point of that island; from the resorts in the atoll and industrial islands, the complaints should be reported to the Atoll Complaints Bureau in the atoll; from Male' as well as from the prisons and from the countries where there are ballot boxes, the complaints have to be reported directly to the Secretariat of the Elections Commission.
		(b)	Before the establishment of the Complaints Bureaus, the complaints should be reported to the Island/Atoll or City Elections Focal Points, and in Male' to the Secretariat of the Elections Commission.
		(c)	Complaints regarding an Island Election Focal Point should be reported to the Atoll Elections Complaints Bureau if it is formed; and if not, to the Secretariat of the Elections Commission. Complaints regarding the Atoll/City/National Elections Complaints Bureau should be reported to the

			Secretariat of the Elections Commission.
		(d)	If a complaint is to be lodged regarding anything done by anyone against the Constitutional Act 11/2008 (The General Act on Elections); and the Constitutional Act 10/2010 (Act on Local Councils' Election); and the Regulations made under these Acts of Constitution; it should be lodged with the details supported by evidence, within 5 days commencing from the date of voting. Complaints lodged at the Atoll/ City or national Elections Complaints Bureaus shall also be regarded as complaints lodged at Elections Commission. When lodging a complaint, the name, address and national IC number of the person who lodges the complaint should be provided. Complaints should be lodged using the form on Annex 12 of this Regulation. If it is a complaint lodged by a political party, or an association or institution; the complaint form should have the stamp and signature of a responsible person.
		(e)	A written account denoting the action taken with regard to a complaint lodged, as per the procedures stated on this point, should be sent to the person who lodged it within 5 days.
Attending the Complaints and Issues Lodged			Complaints regarding the Local Councils Election reported to Island Election Focal Point; Atoll Election Focal Point; City Elections Focal Point; Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureaus; National Elections Complaints Bureau; should be accepted, attended and steps taken immediately wherever possible.
Recording the Information Related to Complaints	51	(a)	Complaints reported to Island Election Focal Point; Atoll Election Focal Point; City Elections Focal Point; Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureaus; and National Elections Complaints Bureau; should be recorded duly and the following information should be included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The full name; permanent address; present address; and national IC of the person who reported the complaint. 2. The person complaint is concerned with (Name; address, if known; national IC number 3. The nature of the complaint (with a summary) 4. The steps taken in response to the complaint lodged or judgement
		(b)	After attending and taking the necessary steps on the complaints reported to Island Elections Focal Point; Atoll

			Elections Focal Point; City Elections Focal Point; and Complaints Bureaus; a complaints report has to be compiled daily and sent to the National Elections Complaints Bureau.
Compiling a Report on the Election Process	52		The Elections Commission should compile a report about the Election process and disclose to the public within 90 days after the election is held.
Determining the Number of Members to be Elected for the Island Council	53		The Elections Commission should take a record of the population registered in each of the inhabited islands, in order to determine the number of members needed to be elected for the councils. In this respect, the population record should be taken, based on a date that would allow a six-month period before the actual date of electoral voting.
An Issue not Stated in the Constitutional Acts or Rules and Guidelines	54		A ruling shall be issued by the Elections Commission in case, an issue arises relating to something that has not been addressed in the Constitutional Acts 11/2008; 10/2010, (General Act on Election; and Act on Local Councils' Election) and this Regulation.
Implementing this Regulation	55		This Regulation shall take effect from the date of issuing and announcing it in public. Once this Regulation is put into effect, the Regulation issued on Local Councils Election in the year 2013 shall be void.
Definitions	56		<p>“Election” means the elections and by-elections held to elect members for the Local Councils.</p> <p>“Advisory Committee” means the committee formed by the Elections Commission to discuss and give advice on the issues pertaining to the Local Councils Election.</p> <p>“Voting Center” means each of the places where the Ballot Boxes are placed for the casting of votes.</p> <p>“Voting Booth” means the place set for putting the tick mark on the ballot paper.</p> <p>“Observers” means people who have been given the permission to observe the Local Councils Election, in line with the Constitutional Act 11/2008 (General Act on Elections) as well as this Regulation.</p> <p>“Monitors” means the media persons who have been given the permission by Elections Commission to cover the activities going on in the areas where voting takes place; and at the vote counting centers; in line with the Constitutional Act 11/2008 (General Act on Elections) as well as this Regulation.</p>

		<p>“Party” or “political party” means the political parties that have been registered as such, at the Elections Commission, in accordance with the laws and regulations followed in the Maldives. “People who look after the voting process” means Elections officials or people appointed by the Elections Commission to manage and administer voting activities.</p> <p>“Family member” means a mother; a father; a son or a daughter; a wife; a husband; own or half siblings.</p> <p>“Document that proves one’s identity” means unexpired national identity card (IC); Maldivian Passport; license card with photograph issued by the Government of Maldives.</p> <p>“Complaints Officer” means the Ballot Box In-charge.</p> <p>“Elections Focal Point” means the person appointed by the Elections Commission to carry out the admin tasks as well as other tasks that are assigned by the Elections Commission.</p> <p>“Complaints Bureau” means the units that have been established to receive the complaints made with regard to the activities of the election”.</p> <p>The number of days stated on these regulations for election related issues shall be counted with public holidays inclusive.</p> <p>In these regulations, as long as defined otherwise; words denoting the singular number shall include the plural and vice-versa.</p>
Number of Points and Annexes	57	These Regulations contain 57 sections and 12 annexes.