

Local Council Election Regulation 2013

Introduction and Title	1	(a)	This Regulation is made and implemented by the Elections Commission under sub-section (a) of Section 27 of the Local Council Election Act (Law No: 10/2010) for the conducting of the Local Council Election in accordance with Article 110 of the Constitution of the Republic of Maldives.
		(b)	This Regulation shall be cited as the "Local Council Election Regulation 2013".
Conducting and monitoring the Local Council Election	2.		All matters relating to the Local Council Election shall be organized, monitored and directed by the Elections Commission.
National Advisory Committee on Elections	3.	(a)	The Elections Commission may establish a "National Advisory Committee on Elections" to advice and consult the Elections Commission on matters relating to the Local Council Election.
		(b)	The National Advisory Committee shall constitute of representatives of the below mentioned parties. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Political Parties contesting candidates for the Local Council Election who want to participate in the National Advisory Committee for Local Council 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. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) selected by the Elections Commission.
		(c)	Members of the National Advisory Committee should not participate in the election as a candidate, agent of a candidate, and should not have any close family relations with any candidate.
		(d)	Qualifying conditions for members of the National Advisory Committee: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Maldivian citizen of age 18 years and above. 2. Shall not be a person serving a criminal sentence. 3. A representative of a political party contesting a candidate in the Local Council

			<p>Election shall be a member of the party.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Representatives of the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives, Maldives Media Council and the Maldives Broadcasting Commission shall be members of the respective institutions. 5. A person representing a Non-Governmental Organization shall be a senior member of the Organization. 6. A person representing the Maldives Police Service shall be an officer holding the post of Assistant Commissioner or of a senior rank. 7. A person representing Department of National Registration shall be a person holding the post of Director or a senior position. 8. Shall not be a family relative of a member of the Elections Commission.
		(e)	Standards and procedures for compliance by the National Advisory Committee on Elections are prescribed in Schedule 1 (One) of this Regulation.
		(f)	Meetings of the National Advisory Committee on Elections shall be organized and directed by the Elections Commission.
		(g)	This Regulation shall not restrict the Elections Commission, where the Elections Commission wishes to do so, from including representatives from parties other than those included in the National Advisory Committee on Elections under sub-section (a) of this Section.
Atoll election units and Island election commissions	4.	(a)	<p>Matters relating to the Local Council Elections shall be conducted by the established Atoll Elections Unit in each atoll. For every city other than Male', a city elections committee consisting of 5 (FIVE) members including senior members of city elections commission and for every inhabited island, an island elections committee consisting of 3 (three) members must be established and will be responsible for conducting matters relating to the local council elections within the city or island.</p> <p>And a focal point shall be established in each foreign country in which a ballot box is placed. Matters relating to the Elections in Male' City shall be conducted by the relevant administrative sections of the Elections Commission.</p>

		(b)	Sub-section (a) of this Section does not restrict the Elections Commission from changing the number of members in the aforementioned committees when and if the Commission deems necessary.
		(c)	Island elections committees established by the elections commission according to this regulation, shall be responsible for the day-to-day matters to be conducted in the Islands in relation to the Local Council Election, as directed by the Atoll Committee.
		(d)	The Elections focal point appointed by the Elections Commission in a foreign country shall be responsible for the day-to-day matters to be conducted in relation to the Local Council Election in polling conducted in that Country.
		(e)	Atoll elections unit shall be established in the island where the atoll council office is located. The unit for Addu city must be located in Hithadhoo. Island elections committee must be established in every inhabited island.
		(f)	The members of the Elections Committees appointed under this Regulation shall sign the declaration prescribed under Schedule 2 of this Regulation when undertaking the work assigned to them.
		(g)	Elections commissions reserves the right to directly carry out the bi-elections mentioned under sub section (b) of section 9 of the Local Council Election Act (Law No: 10/2010) and runoff elections mentioned under sub section (a) of section 22 of the Local Council Election Act (Law No: 10/2010) without establishing the island elections committees and atoll elections committees.
Establishment of elections committees	5.	(a)	Of the three members in the island elections committees, one member must be an employee working in the administration of the island council.
		(b)	Elections commission reserves the right to change the number of members in the election committee according to the work being carried out by the respective committees.
Participation of non-members in the elections committee's meetings	6.		A representative officer from the Maldives Police Service and a qualified legal consultant can be participated in elections committee's meetings where security concerns are addressed.

Conditions required for Committee members	7.	(a)	<p>Each member appointed to Committees shall be a person qualifying the following conditions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A person having the educational qualifications, experience and capacity to independently initiate and carry out the elections related work assigned by the Elections Commission. 2. Shall not be a member of any political party. 3. Shall not be a person involved in the campaign of any Candidate. 4. Shall be a person not having close family relations with any person participating in the election as a candidate. 5. Shall not be a person serving a criminal sentence.
		(b)	<p>If a situation mentioned under subsection (a) 4 Or 5 of this section arises, the member should resign from his/her post immediately and inform the elections commission as soon as possible.</p>
		(c)	<p>The Elections Commission shall have the discretion to select Committee members on the basis of their capabilities, where person(s) qualifying to the conditions prescribed under sub-section (a) of this Section are not available.</p>
Role of island elections committees	8.		<p>Island elections committees shall be responsible, in accordance with the directions of the Atoll Elections Committee, for all matters relating to the conduct of the Local Council Election in all Islands other than Male’.</p>
Duties and responsibilities of island elections committees	9.	(a)	<p>The island elections committee members shall remain in the performance of the responsibilities and duties after undertaking the responsibilities and duties of the island elections committee. The responsibilities of island elections committee are as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize, conduct and monitor in accordance with the laws and regulations, all works required in the island relating to the local council elections, in accordance with the directions of the atoll election unit. 2. Receiving and informing the Elections Commission of amendments proposed to the Registry if any, and ensuring that the

			<p>proposed amendments have been included by the Elections Commission by providing support and cooperation to the Commission in verifying the validity of the Registry.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Making arrangements for the list of eligible voters sent by the Elections Commission to be displayed in a publicly accessible place in the island.4. Ensuring that arrangements have been made with the Maldives Police Service for security measures in polling areas during the polling.5. Ensuring that arrangements have been made with the health services provider to provide health services and emergency treatment services in polling stations.6. Issuing passes to persons authorized by the Elections Commission in the manner prescribed by the Commission.7. Making arrangements to ensure that polling stations and ballot count stations are easily accessible for voting by voters and safe and secure for collecting, counting and announcing the ballots and preparing the stations for polling and ballot count.8. Acting in accordance with the directions of the Atoll Elections Unit in appointing and arranging officials to work near ballot boxes and assigning work to such persons.9. Notifying regularly to the Atoll Elections Complaints Bureau after receiving complaints submitted from the Island with regard to the Election. And acting in accordance to the directions of the Atoll Elections Committee in relation to the complaints submitted from the Island with regard to the Election prior to the establishment of the Atoll Complaints bureau.
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			<ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Making arrangements and sending Island elections officials for training to Islands in which trainings are being conducted.11. Ensuring that the ballot boxes and other Elections materials are safely maintained in the Island.12. Sending ballot boxes and other materials to polling stations according to schedule13. Sending officials allocated to polling stations on schedule, ensuring whether the officials arrived on time and whether they fulfill the responsibilities assigned to them.14. Completing the polling, announcing the results and transmitting immediately from the polling stations the preliminary result sheets to the required locations.15. Sending the polling materials to specified places as directed by the Atoll Elections Committee. The island elections commission member employed by the island council will be responsible for this task.16. Making arrangements of food and accommodation for the officials in the polling day, according to the directions given by the atoll elections unit.17. Making arrangements for sending officials and providing materials needed for the polling center to the designated center.18. Maintaining in accordance with Law No:3/2006 (Maldives Monetary Act) and the "Monetary Regulation", records of the election related expenses and financial transactions and documents incurred in the island and submitting the required information in accordance with the enacted Monetary Regulations, to the Elections Commission. The island elections commission member employed by the island council will be responsible for this task.
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			<p>19. Submitting details (including bills) of all expenses incurred in the island in relation to the election to the Elections Commission, within 10 (Ten) days from the date of completion of the election and announcement of the official results of the Election. The island elections commission member employed by the island council will be responsible for this task.</p> <p>20. Organizing any other matters required by the Atoll elections unit to be arranged in the island in relation to the Election, and informing immediately any matters requiring attention of the Atoll elections unit.</p>
Role of atoll elections units	10		<p>Providing assistance to the elections commission in conducting matters relating to the election by helping to coordinate matters between the election commission and the atoll council office and island council office. The Atoll Elections Unit shall be responsible for planning and organizing all matters of the Local Council Election in the Atoll, in accordance with the directions of the Elections Commission.</p>
Duties and responsibilities of atoll elections units.	11	(a)	<p>The Atoll Elections Unit members shall remain in the performance of the responsibilities and duties after undertaking the responsibilities and duties of the Atoll Elections Unit. The responsibilities of Atoll Elections Unit are as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize, conduct and monitor all works required in the Atoll relating to the Local council Election, in accordance with the laws and regulations, and with the directions of the Elections Commission. 2. Making arrangements for receiving candidates' application forms, answering to candidates, arranging for the drawing of lots amongst qualified candidates according to the directions given by the elections commissions.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Preparing the documents required be publishing and making public under the laws, and making arrangements through the Island election committees to place in a manner publicly accessible in the Islands of the Atolls, the documents prepared and sent by the Elections Commission.4. Monitoring and ensuring that the Island elections committees receive and inform the Elections Commission of the amendments proposed to the Registry, and ensuring that the proposed amendments have been included by the Elections Commission and monitoring and ensuring whether the Island elections committees are providing support and cooperation to the Commission in verifying the validity of the Registry.5. Making arrangements to ensure that polling stations and ballot count stations are easily accessible for voting by voters and safe and secure for collecting, counting and announcing the ballots and preparing the stations for carrying out the said functions.6. Assigning officials allocated to polling stations, and ensuring that they fulfill the responsibilities assigned to them as directed by the Elections Commission7. Conducting training programs as directed by the Elections Commission and sending trainers to conduct the training programs to the islands in which training is being carried out, and making all arrangements (including accommodation, food and all similar sorts) for the trainers when they arrive on the training islands.8. Deciding on a place to conduct training and making all arrangements to execute the program9. Constituting and establishing a Complaints
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			<p>Bureau consisting of 03 (Three) members in accordance with the directions of the Elections Commission, in Islands in which Atoll Elections Committees have been established.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Providing the assistance required by the island elections committees in the conduct of day-to-day matters relating to polling and ballot count in the Islands of Atoll, and administering and monitoring their work.11. Making arrangements for sending Island elections officials for training to be trained to the designated Islands.12. Making arrangements for food and accommodation for the days spent by officials in Islands for training and to get trained.13. Making arrangements to maintain safely in the Island, the ballot boxes and safety equipment to be used in the Election, and ensuring their safe maintenance.14. Sending safely the materials used for polling to the designated Islands, within the scheduled time period.15. Ensuring that arrangements have been made with the Maldives Police Service for security measures in polling areas during the polling.16. Providing assistance to establish health services and emergency treatment services in Polling stations.17. Ensuring that passes have been issued by the Island Elections Committee to persons authorized by the Elections Commission in the manner prescribed by the Commission.18. Providing assistance to make food and accommodation arrangements for international observers visiting the Islands under the supervision of the Elections Commission.
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			<p>19. Ensuring that arrangements have been made by the island elections committee to provide food for persons involved in polling matters on the polling day.</p> <p>20. Sending the polling materials to the place designated by the Elections Commission, upon completion of the polling. A member of – will be responsible for this task.</p> <p>21. Maintaining in accordance with Law No:3/2006 (Maldives Monetary Act) and the “Monetary Regulation”, records of the election related expenses and financial transactions and documents incurred in the Atoll and submitting the required information in accordance with the enacted Monetary Regulations, to the Elections Commission within the prescribed time period. A member of – will be responsible for this task.</p> <p>22. Submitting to the Elections Commission, within 20 (Twenty) days from the date of completion of the election and announcement of the official results of the Election, details (including bills) of all expenses incurred in the Atoll in relation to the election, and upon completion of the election, sending all materials required to be sent to the Election Commission in relation to the Election, no later than 45(Forty Five) days from the date of announcement of the official results of the Election.</p> <p>23. Paying attention to organize and conduct Election matters in the Atoll in the least costly manner, and providing advise to Elections Commission in relation to the ways in which election matters can be conducted in the Atoll in a less-costly manner.</p> <p>24. Until a complaints bureau is established, accepting complaints made in relation to the Atoll Elections and submitting the complaints</p>
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			<p>report to the National Elections Complain bureau on a daily basis</p> <p>25. Ensuring that the materials that the island elections committees send to the atoll elections unit in order to send to the elections commission are sent to the elections commission without delay.</p> <p>26. Checking and ensuring that the arrangements to transmit the preliminary results to the main elections station have been made.</p> <p>27. Ensuring that the preliminary results have been transmitted to the main elections station.</p> <p>28. Organising any other matters required by the Elections Commission to be arranged in the Atoll in relation to the Election, and informing immediately any matters requiring attention of the Elections Commission to the Commission.</p>
Role of City Elections Committee	12		<p>City Elections Committees shall be responsible, in accordance with the directions of the Elections Committee, for all matters relating to the conduct of the Local Council Election in City.</p>
Duties and responsibilities of City elections committee.	13	(a)	<p>The City Elections Committee members shall remain in the performance of the responsibilities and duties after undertaking the responsibilities and duties of the City Elections Committee. The responsibilities of City Elections Committee are as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organise, conduct and monitor in accordance with the laws and regulations, all works required in the City relating to the Local council Election, in accordance with the directions of the Elections Commission. 2. Making arrangements for receiving candidates' application forms, answering to candidates, arranging for the drawing of lots amongst qualified candidates according to the directions given by the elections commissions.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Preparing the documents required be publishing and making public under the laws, and making arrangements to place in a manner publicly accessible in the City, the documents prepared and sent by the Elections Commission.4. Monitoring and ensuring that the City elections committees receive and inform the Elections Commission of the amendments proposed to the Registry, and ensuring that the proposed amendments have been included by the Elections Commission and monitoring and ensuring whether the City elections committees are providing support and cooperation to the Commission in verifying the validity of the Registry.5. Making arrangements to ensure that polling stations and ballot count stations are easily accessible for voting by voters and safe and secure for collecting, counting and announcing the ballots and preparing the stations for carrying out the said functions.6. Assigning officials allocated to polling stations, and ensuring that they fulfill the responsibilities assigned to them as directed by the Elections Commission7. Conducting training programs as directed by the Elections Commission and sending trainers to conduct the training programs to the islands in which training is being carried out, and making all arrangements (including accommodation, food and all similar sorts) for the trainers when they arrive on the training islands.8. Making all the necessary arrangements for the training of officials in the city, as directed by the Elections commission.9. Constituting and establishing a Complaints Bureau consisting of 03 (Three) members in accordance with the directions of the
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			<p>Elections Commission, in the Island in which the City Elections Committee has been established.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Making arrangements and sending elections officials for training and to get trained to the designated place.11. Making arrangements for food and accommodation for the days spent by officials in training.12. Ensuring that the ballot boxes and other Elections materials are safely maintained in the City.13. Sending ballot boxes and other materials to polling stations according to schedule14. Ensuring that arrangements have been made with the Maldives Police Service for security measures in polling areas during the polling.15. Ensuring that arrangements have been made with the health services provider to provide health services and emergency treatment services in polling stations.16. Issuing passes to persons authorized by the Elections Commission in the manner prescribed by the Commission.17. Making arrangements for food and accommodation for international observers visiting the city under the supervision of the Elections Commission.18. Making arrangements for food and accommodation for persons involved in polling matters in the city under the supervision of the Elections Commission.19. Sending the polling materials to the place designated by the Elections Commission, upon completion of the polling. The senior member of the committee will be responsible for this task.
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			<p>20. Maintaining in accordance with Law No:3/2006 (Maldives Monetary Act) and the “Monetary Regulation”, records of the election related expenses and financial transactions and documents incurred in the City and submitting the required information in accordance with the enacted Monetary Regulations, to the Elections Commission within the prescribed time period. The most senior employee of the city elections unit, in the committee will be responsible for this task.</p> <p>21. Submitting to the Elections Commission, within 20 (Twenty) days from the date of completion of the election and announcement of the official results of the Election, details (including bills) of all expenses incurred in the City in relation to the election, and upon completion of the election sending all materials required to be sent to the Election Commission in relation to the Election, no later than 45(Forty Five) days from the date of announcement of the official results of the Election. The senior most employee of the city elections unit, in the committee will be responsible for this task. Furthermore this should be clearly mentioned in the employment contract of the member.</p> <p>22. Paying attention to organise and conduct Election matters in the City in the least costly manner, and providing advise to Elections Commission in relation to the ways in which election matters can be conducted in the City in a less-costly manner.</p> <p>23. Until a complaints bureau is established, accepting complaints made in relation to the City Elections and submitting the complaints report to the National Elections Complains bureau on a daily basis</p> <p>24. Sending all the materials that need to be sent to the Elections Commission to the elections</p>
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			<p>commission without delay</p> <p>25. Sending the preliminary results of the elections to the center designated by the Elections Commission.</p> <p>26. Organising any other matters required by the Elections Commission to be arranged in the City in relation to the Election, and informing immediately any matters requiring attention of the Elections Commission to the Commission.</p>
Term of Elections committees	14.		Unless otherwise specified in this Regulation, the Elections committees appointed under this Regulation shall remain in their posts from the date of appointment to the post by the Elections Commission until the date specified by the Elections Commission as the date on which the work of the Elections Committee is completed.
Eligible Voters Registry	15		The Elections Commission shall create and maintain an eligible voters registry for the purpose of polling during the Local council Election as prescribed under the Law No: 11/2008 (General Act on Elections).
Submitting complaints in relation to the eligible voters registry	16.		Person(s) wishing to submit complaints in relation to information included or omitted from the eligible voters registry, or in relation to an amendment required to be included or omitted from the registry to validate the registry, may submit complaints to the Focal Points or to the Elections Commission, in accordance with the specification in Section 10 of Law No: 11/2008 (General Act on Elections). The Complaint shall be submitted through the form prescribed under Schedule 3 (Three) of this Regulation. Arrangements
Sending the complaints submit in relation to the eligible voters registry	17.	(a)	Any complaints in relation to the eligible voters registry must be submit to the elections commission by whatever body that receives the

		(b)	Records of all complaints that are submit to the elections commission relating to the eligible voters registry, including the type of complaint and the action taken regarding the complaint must be archived and maintained by the Elections Commission
		(c)	Only the people who have their names in the eligible voter’s registry will be allowed to vote in the Local Council Elections.
Public issuing and using of the eligible voters registry	18.	(a)	A copy of the eligible voters registry publicised in the Government Gazette shall be issued to candidates contesting in the Local council election and Political Parties desiring to have the list, in accordance with directions of the Elections Commission.
		(b)	The eligible voter’s registry or information in the registry shall be used only for purposes relating to the Election. It shall be prohibited for any person to use this information for business purposes or to gain monetary benefit.
Registering to vote in an Island other than the resident Island	19	(a)	Persons residing in Islands or places other than their resident addresses, desiring to register for voting shall submit their information to the Commission or a place designated by the Commission using the form prescribed under Schedule 4 (Four) of this Regulation in accordance with the directions publicly announced by the Commission within the period prescribed by the Commission. A copy of an unexpired official document identifying the person, suitable to be used for voting by the person requesting for registration shall be submitted along with this form. And the person making the submission of the form shall submit an original copy of an unexpired official document identifying that person. The form shall be received only if the person submitting takes responsibility for the form. Forms submitted to the Administration of the Elections Commission without a mediating person via email or facsimile shall not be accepted.

		(b)	In accordance with sub-section (a) of this Section a person residing in a place other than the registered residence of that person, where the residing place is a place in which a ballot box is to be placed by the Elections Commission, the person's name shall be registered for voting in that place, following an application for registration in that place being made within the time period prescribed by the Commission. And the Elections Commission shall make arrangements for that person to vote in that place on the polling day.
		(c)	A person having notified and registered in a place other than the place of registered residence with the Elections Commission in accordance with sub-section (b) of this Section shall not be able to vote on the day of polling in a place other than the place registered with the Elections Commission
		(d)	If voting in a particular ballot box means that the voter loses anonymity, the voter will decide whether to exercise his/her right to vote.
		(e)	The eligible voter's registry should not be shared with any parties without a court order, ordering to do so.
Announcement for applying to Local council Candidacy	20.	(a)	The Elections Commission shall make a public announcement in accordance with Section 9 of Law No: 10/2010 (The Local Council Election Act) declaring the commencement of the process for interested persons to apply for candidacy.
Applying for the Local council Election	21.	(a)	The public announcement made under sub-section (a) of this Section shall provide a minimum period of 14 (Fourteen) days for interested candidates to apply to the Elections Commission for the Local Council Election using the application form prescribed under Schedule 5 (Five).

		(b)	Along with the application form for participating in the Local Council election, a contact phone number, an address and e-mail address to send official mails and information and materials listed under section 16, 17 18 of Law number: 11/2008 (General Law of Elections) and under section 9,10,12 and 15 of Law number: 10/2010 (Local Council Elections Act)
		(c)	In approving the logo or symbol included with the submission, for use in campaigning for support in the election, priority shall be given to the first person making the application where more than one person has submitted the same logo. Candidates contesting on behalf of a party may use the party logo with the party's permission.
Withdrawing Name	22.		A candidate desiring to withdraw his/her name shall have the discretion to withdraw the name prior to the drawing, ordering and announcement of candidate names.
Submitting and returning deposit money	23.	(a)	The deposit money of Rufiyaa 1500/- (One Thousand Five hundred) required under Section 15 (b) of Law No: 10/2010 (The Local Council Election Act) shall be paid in cash or via a bank guaranteed cheque.
		(b)	The deposit amount of 1500/- (One Thousand Five hundred) Rufiyaa paid to contest in the Election shall not be returned to a person scoring 10% (Ten Percent) or lesser number of votes.
			The Elections Commission shall make arrangements to refund to the candidate the deposit money prescribed under sub-section (a) of this Section, where a person withdraws his/her name from candidacy prior to the announcement of the name of local council election candidates, within a maximum of 05 (Five) days from the date of submission for withdrawal of name. The candidate must submit the name and number of a bank account open in a bank in Maldives along with the application form, in order to facilitate the refund of deposit money.

Ordering the names of Local council Candidates	24.	a)	The Elections Commission shall make an announcement and inform the candidates, the place, date and time for the drawing of lots amongst qualified candidates, between those persons qualified on application for local council candidacy.
		(b)	The draw prescribed under sub-section (a) of this Section shall be held in the presence of candidates who have applied for Local council Candidacy or in front of representatives appointed by those candidates.
		(c)	A candidate appointing a representative in accordance with sub-section (b) of this Section shall send that person to the place in which the draw is to be held, with a letter of appointment along with an unexpired Maldivian Identity Card of that person. The letter shall have the full name, address and Maldivian national identity card number of that person.
		(d)	A person designated by the Elections Commission shall participate in the draw on behalf of a candidate, where the candidate or an appointed representative of the candidate fails to attend the draw held to order the names of the candidates.
Announcing the names of Local Council Election Candidates	25.		The elections commission must announce the candidate's names as ordered by the draw within 21 (Twenty One) days of the due date to apply for candidacy. The following information must be included in the announcement. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full name and permanent address 2. Name of the political party if the candidate is contesting on behalf of the party 3. If the candidate is an independent candidate, it should be stated in the announcement
Right to campaign for support	26.	(a)	Candidates contesting in the Local Council Election shall have the right to campaign for gaining support for themselves in accordance with Section 28 of Law No: 11/2008 (General Act on Elections).
		(b)	In campaigning to gain support for candidates in accordance with sub-section (a) of this Section the following acts may be undertaken. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting and speaking with people to gain support.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Holding peaceful gatherings. 3. Using News Media 4. Writing letters to people for the purpose of gaining support, distributing and displaying in public places, photos, stickers, write-ups and the like. 5. Using and displaying symbols and items portraying symbols. 6. Advertising and using billboards, posters and the like. 7. Staging Shows. 8. Organising Rallies Vehicle Parades. 9. Using Internet and Social Media.
Code of conduct for candidates and persons campaigning to gain support for candidates	27.	(a)	<p>All persons working to gain support in the Local council Election shall adhere to the code of conduct prescribed herein.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not making propositions to any person of the nature that belonging to a particular region of Maldives, or speaking a particular dialect, or due to their faith in a particular sect of Islam or the basis of their gender differences to be regarded as a reason to vote or to abstain from exercising their right to vote. 2. A meeting held to obtain support for a party or a candidate shall not be held in a mosque or in the mosque grounds or in a place providing health services or in the ground area of a place providing health services. 3. A speech of any kind shall not be given on different religious occasions, religious preaching and sermons to gain or diminish support for a particular candidate or party. 4. No efforts shall be made through lessons used in teaching institutions, colleges and universities to gain or diminish support for a particular candidate or party.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. State office buildings and compounds other than teaching institutions and social centres shall not be used for campaigning. The compound area and halls of teaching institutions shall be used after obtaining permission from those places. Permission to use such places for campaign purposes shall be given on an equivalent basis between all persons requesting for its use, in a manner not likely to disrupt the services being rendered in the place.6. No candidate or person(s) supporting a candidate shall do an act to cause interference with a gathering being held to gain support for another candidate.7. No candidate or person(s) supporting a candidate shall remove damage or destroy a poster, logo or a symbol representing a candidate, placed by another candidate or the party representing the candidate or person(s) supporting the candidate for the purposes of gaining support.8. A meeting shall not be arranged by a party representing a candidate or by person(s) supporting another candidate at the same time in the same place where another candidate or party representing a candidate is holding a campaign gathering or meeting.9. The permission of the owner shall be obtained before placing any material used for campaigning in the election on another person's house, building or land (As such permission to place the said material on a state land, building or place shall be given equally to all persons requesting for permission).10. Person(s) placing advertisements, billboards and banners and the like for gaining support in elections, shall remove and clean the place within 10 (Ten) days from the date of announcement of the official election results.
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			<p>11. At the time of a gathering being held to gain support, where any person disturbs the campaign and attempts to disrupt the arrangement of the place, the assistance of police services and relevant authorities shall be obtained to resolve disruptions caused rather than taking personal actions to resolve the matter.</p> <p>12. An act likely to diminish the character of any person shall not be done in efforts made to gain support for a candidate.</p> <p>13. No person shall force or threaten any person in any way by asking to vote or not to vote in a specific.</p> <p>14. Money and gifts shall not be given to any person as bribery to vote or not to vote for a particular person. And any act or proposition to incur a financial or economic benefit shall not be done or made.</p> <p>15. Speech contradicting a tenet of Islam and acts causing disrespect to Islam shall not be done in efforts to gain support for a candidate. And allegations not possible of being proved, of the nature that any candidate or the party to which a candidate belongs to is a non-religious party or a traitor shall not be perpetrated.</p> <p>16. Any act contradicting the Maldivian Laws and Regulations shall not be committed in obtaining support for a candidate.</p>
		(b)	<p>No person shall commit any act likely to diminish an electoral right of any candidate in any effort to support a candidate or to refrain from supporting a candidate. Committing of the following acts shall be taken as diminishing an electoral right of a candidate.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interfering with the personal life and personal matters of another candidate in a speech given by a candidate to gain support for a candidate or in any other way.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Speaking based on unsubstantial allegations or in a manner so as to misrepresent an incident that has occurred, in relation to a candidate or with regard to the political party to which a candidate belongs. 3. Attempting to create anger and hatred amongst people. 4. Interference by another candidate or supporters of another candidate to shows, rallies and vehicle rounds conducted by a candidate to gain support or held to gain support for a candidate.
Representatives appointed to voting stations by candidates	28.	(a)	One representative may be appointed to each polling station by every candidate to monitor the polling and ballot count on the polling day.
		(b)	The opportunity to appoint a representative as prescribed under sub-section (a) shall be given to candidates requesting for it within the time period specified in the announcement made by the Elections Commission for the purpose. The Application for this shall be made using the form prescribed under Schedule 6 (Six) of this Regulation.
		(c)	<p>The representatives appointed to the polling stations by candidates shall have the following qualifications.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shall be a Maldivian of age 18 (eighteen) years. 2. Shall not be a person serving a criminal sentence. 3. Shall be a person eligible to vote in the Local Council Election. 4. Shall not be a person assigned responsibility by the Elections Commission to conduct matters relating to the Local council Election. 5. Shall not be a judge, or a member/head of an independent institution.

			<p>6. Shall not be a person detained under suspicion for a crime.</p> <p>7. Shall not be a member of the Maldivian Defense Force or Police Services.</p>
		(d)	<p>Persons working, as representatives of candidates shall sign the declaration prescribed under Schedule 7 (Seven) of this Regulation. And shall maintain their conduct in accordance with the code of conduct of representatives.</p>
Observing of the Election by Maldivian parties	29.	(a)	<p>Permission to work as election observers shall be issued to Maldivian parties who apply and meet the conditions required, following the announcement made in accordance with Section 40 (a) of the General Laws on Elections made by the Elections Commission to make applications requesting for it. This application shall be made using the form prescribed under Schedule 8 (Eight) of this Regulation.</p>
		(b)	<p>Maldivian Persons applying to be observers of the Local council Election shall meet the following conditions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shall be a Maldivian of 18 (Eighteen) years of age. 2. Shall not be a person serving a criminal sentence. 3. A person whose name is not listed in any political party, where the person is applying from a civil society other than a political party or as an independent person. 4. Shall be a person eligible to vote in the Local Council Election. 5. Shall not be a person assigned responsibility from the Elections Commission in relation to the Local council Election.

		(c)	Persons working, as observers shall sign the declaration prescribed under Schedule 7 (Seven) of this Regulation. And shall act in accordance with the code of conduct of observers.
		(d)	Observer passes issued to political parties and organizations shall be used in the manner prescribed by the Elections Commission.
		(e)	Observer passes issued to political parties and organisations shall be issued in a manner such that passes issued to a political party, organisation shall not exceed beyond 10 (Ten) percent of the number of ballot boxes placed for polling in the Local council Election.
		(f)	A second observer representing a political party or an organisation shall not enter a polling area, where an observer representing the same political party or organisation is already present in the area.
		(g)	Although sub section (e) of this section mentions the amount passes to be issued, observers can enter the polling stations according to space available in the stations.
Observing of the Local Council Election by International parties	30.	(a)	<p>An international party may observe the election by invitation of the Election or on meeting the conditions prescribed below, following application made subject to an announcement made by the Elections Commission. Such persons shall make application requesting for this using the application form prescribed under Schedule 9 (Nine) of this Regulation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shall be a person of 18 (eighteen) years of age. 2. Shall be a person accredited by the international organization related on election that the person is representing. 3. Shall not be a person campaigning to gain support for any political party or candidate.

Monitoring	31.	(a)	<p>Following the announcement of the Elections Commission to apply for monitoring, the persons making application and qualifying the conditions set herein, shall be the persons entitled to monitoring the polling and ballot count of the Local council Election. Maldivians applying for this shall use the application form prescribed under Schedule 10 (Ten) of this Regulation. International parties making application shall use the form prescribed under Schedule 9 (Nine) of this Regulation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shall be a person of age 18 (Eighteen) years. 2. Shall not be a person serving a criminal sentence. 3. (a) Shall be a person certain to the Elections Commission as a person working in a TV/Radio station registered with the Maldives Broadcasting Commission or (b) Shall be a person certain to the Elections Commission as a person working for a newspaper registered under Law No: 47/78 (Publications Act) or (c) Shall be a person certain to the Elections Commission as a person working for an International media. 4. Shall not be a person responsible on behalf of the Elections Commission to conduct matters relating to the Local council Election
		b)	<p>Persons involved in monitoring of the Election matters shall act in accordance with Section 41 of Law No: 11/2008 (General Act on Elections) and this Regulation.</p>
		(c)	<p>Persons working, as monitors in the Election shall sign the declaration prescribed under Schedule 7 (Seven) of this Regulation. And shall act in accordance with the code of conduct of the monitors.</p>

		(d)	The monitor passes issued to the publications offices shall be released to the monitors in the manner directed by the Elections Commission.
		(e)	Passes shall be issued to registered publication offices , in a manner such that the passes issued to each party does not exceed beyond 10 (Ten) percent of the number of ballot boxes placed for polling.
Code of conduct for representatives of candidates, observers and monitors	32.	(a)	All persons involved in monitoring and observing the matters relating to the conduct of the Local council Election shall adhere to the code of conduct prescribed under Schedule 11 (Eleven) of this Regulation.
		(b)	Observers, monitors and representatives of candidates may note information required by them during polling and ballot count in a manner that will not hinder the process.
		(c)	Head official of the polling station shall disclose on request by the observers, monitors or representatives of candidates the number of persons who have voted at the station at any given time and the number of ballot papers remaining at the station.
		(d)	Observers, monitors and representatives of candidates shall provide full support and assistance in election related matters to the officials appointed by the Elections Commission. And shall make no efforts to influence any such person(s).
		(e)	A person monitoring the polling at the polling station, or a candidate or a representative of a candidate, or an observer or monitor shall not assist a physically incapacitated person to place a mark on the ballot paper.
Observers, monitors and representatives of candidates to the regulation	33.		Head official of the polling station shall have the discretion to withhold the pass issued to an observer, monitor or a representative of a candidate and to order the person to leave the area where the observer, monitor or a representative of a candidate has acted in breach of Law No 11/2008 (General Act

			on Elections) and Law No: 10/2010 (The Local Council Election Act) or is suspected of doing such an act. Where such orders are issued and the person fails to comply, the persons maintain security shall take the pass from the person and remove the person from the area.
Making preparations required for polling	34.	(a)	The person designated by the Elections Commission shall make arrangements to deliver all materials required for polling, in the care of polling station officials, to the polling station before the time on which the polling is set to begin.
		(b)	All polling stations shall have a list of eligible voters registered for voting in that station. The full name, sex, atoll, island, address, date of birth, and Maldivian identity card number of all persons shall be available on the list.
Determining the areas to place ballot boxes	35.		The Elections Commission shall determine the number of ballot boxes to be placed in an Island and the locations in which the ballot boxes shall be placed, based on the number of eligible voters registered for voting in the Island and determine the persons who will be voting in the area from the list of eligible voters registered and the Elections Commission shall make a public announcement to that effect.
Polling Booth	36.	(a)	Every polling station shall have at least 1 (One) polling booth for placing a mark on the ballot paper. The polling booth shall be designed in manner such that the mark placed by the person voting shall not be visible to any other person.
		(b)	The polling booth shall be placed in a place easily visible to the polling station officials and observers. And in a manner such that the behavior of the person placing the mark (prohibited acts such as taking photos of the ballot paper) shall be easily visible or noticeable to the officials.
Responsibilities of persons monitoring the polling and ballot count.	37.	(a)	The responsibilities of the persons monitoring the polling and ballot count shall be fulfilled in accordance with, the polling station officials' handbook, approved by the Elections Commission.

		(b)	The persons responsible for monitoring the polling and ballot count shall sign the declaration prescribed under Schedule 2 (Two) of this Regulation in order to undertake the responsibilities.
Duties and responsibilities of the head official appointed to polling stations	38.	(a)	<p>The responsibilities assigned to the head official appointed to the polling station by the Elections Commission or a person designated by the Elections Commission shall be prudently fulfilled. Prescribed below are the duties and responsibilities of the head official appointed to the polling station.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receiving the ballot boxes and materials and important documents used for polling in polling stations during the local council Election, maintaining the materials safely and being responsible for the material. 2. Making necessary arrangements and plans and ensuring that the preparations required in polling stations prior to the polling is completed. 3. Meeting the persons who will be working in the polling stations prior to the day of polling, and clarifying the manner in which the polling shall be conducted and assigning individual tasks to persons. 4. Opening the security envelope containing the ballot papers 15 (Fifteen) minutes prior to the polling, counting the ballot papers and determining the number of ballot papers. 5. Prior to the start of polling, opening the ballot box and verifying to the first 02 (Two) people appearing at the polling station, and if present at the polling station the representatives of candidates, permitted observers and monitors that the ballot box is empty and closing the lid of the box tightly and putting pull tight seals on 4 (four) sides. 6. Providing the opportunity in accordance with the laws and regulations for persons permitted by the Elections Commission to enter into the polling station.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none">7. In the event that a person is required to be sent to the polling station from the Elections Commission, facilitating the entry of the person sent from the Elections Commission into the polling station (permission for such a person to enter into the polling station shall be given only after confirming that the person has been permitted by the Elections Commission).8. Ensuring that the polling in polling stations is conducted in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations.9. Amongst the persons appearing for polling, confirming the physical incapacity of persons claiming to be physically incapacitated, and permitting the use of an assistant for such person(s).10. Receiving complaints on the day of polling in polling stations made by persons appearing for polling, observers, and monitors and taking immediate measures where practicable. Reporting complaints that cannot be handled immediately, to the Island Elections committee or Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureau.11. Determining valid and invalid votes in accordance with the standards prescribed by the Elections Commission.12. Determining the preliminary results and announcing the results.13. Completing the documents to be completed by the polling station.14. Sealing and handing over the ballot papers and materials used in polling and all other documents related to the Election to the person designated by the Commission when the polling and ballot count is completed.15. Placing the preliminary results in the polling station in a manner visible to the public and
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			<p>sending the results to the Elections Commission in the manner directed by the Commission.</p> <p>16. Taking all necessary actions required, for conducting the polling at polling stations peacefully and smoothly.</p> <p>17. Taking measures necessary to maintain peace at the polling station and area during the polling and ballot count.</p> <p>18. Seeking police assistance where the assistance of police is required to stop an act being committed in breach of regulation in the polling station area.</p> <p>19. Providing the information prescribed in the Laws and Regulations to representatives of candidates, observers and monitors on their request.</p> <p>20. Writing the report on the events that occurred in each polling area from the start of polling till the polling closed and signing the report by the head in charge of the area (Ballot Box in charge) and the person preparing the report and the person checking the report, and submitting the report to the main polling station located in Male'.</p> <p>21. Undertaking any actions required in addition to those prescribed above, for the purpose of polling, ballot count and announcement of preliminary results, taking such actions in accordance with the counsel of the Elections Commission or a person designated by the Elections Commission.</p>
Assisting physically incapacitated persons to place the mark	39.	(a)	To ensure that the person assisting a person physically incapacitated to place a mark on the ballot paper is assisting only one person, the name, address and Maldivian Identity Card Number of that person shall be noted by the persons monitoring the polling.

		(b)	<p>The following persons shall be regarded as being physically incapacitated to place a mark on the ballot paper and provided assistance.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blind persons or persons unable to place on the ballot paper due to poor eye sight. 2. Persons with both hands disabled. 3. Persons incapable of placing a mark on the ballot paper due to old age and weakness. 4. Persons incapable of placing a mark on the ballot paper due to health conditions.
		(c)	<p>A person capable of placing a mark on the ballot paper shall not be regarded as a person physically incapacitated to place a mark on the ballot paper by the head of the polling station, and shall not be given the opportunity to use an assistant to place a mark on the ballot paper.</p>
		(d)	<p>A person registered to vote in the same polling station only shall be able to assist a person prescribed as physically incapacitated under subsection (a) of this Section to place a mark on the ballot paper.</p>
		(e)	<p>A person monitoring the polling at the polling station, a candidate, a representative of a candidate, and observer or a monitor shall not assist a person incapacitated in accordance with subsection (a) of this Section to place a mark on the ballot paper.</p>
Submitting an official document clarifying identity	40.		<p>An official identity of the person appearing for voting (Identity card or passport or a driving licence stating the identity card number and photo) shall be submitted. All documents submitted in this manner shall be unexpired documents. A person appearing to vote shall be permitted to vote only after ensuring that the photo on the identity document brought by the person and the face of the person are of the same resemblance.</p>

Invalid Votes	41.		<p>All votes cast in the following manner are invalid.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any vote placed on a paper other than the ballot paper designated by the Elections Commission. 2. Votes not placed in alignment to the name of any candidate. 3. Marks placed against more candidates' names than the required number of candidates for the island council or Atoll/City Council. 4. Marks that is not clear as to the person for whom the mark is placed. 5. Votes evident as being casted unlawfully. 6. Votes that do not have the tick mark placed on it.
Valid Votes	42.		<p>Valid votes shall be considered as votes placed in the following manner.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Votes placing the tick mark against the names of the number of candidates required or less than the number of candidates required. 2. Votes that can be determined as a tick mark placed against the names of the number of candidates required or less than the number of candidates required. 3. Notwithstanding scribbling on the ballot paper, a vote that has placed tick mark against the names of the number of candidates required or less than the number of candidates required. 4. Notwithstanding the direction of the mark being displaced or the shape of the mark being altered or changed, the mark placed against the name of one candidate being capable of being deduced as a tick mark. 5. Notwithstanding the mark being placed outside the box designated for the mark, but the mark being placed against the names of the number of candidates required or less

			than the number of candidates required.
		c)	The head of the polling station shall decide on the validity of or invalidity of a vote where a dispute as to validity or invalidity of a vote arises amongst persons counting the ballot.
Announcing the preliminary results	43.	(a)	After the results of the poll is announced at polling stations and the results are transmitted to the polling station in Male', the Elections Commission shall announce the preliminary results based on the results of the polling stations
		(b)	The announcement of the results in accordance with sub-section (a) of this Section shall be done after confirming the results sent by the polling stations are the results announced in those stations.
Announcing the official results	44	(a)	The Elections Commission shall publicly announce and publish in the Government Gazette the official result of the Election, within a maximum of 14 (Fourteen) days starting from the date of polling of the Local council Election
		(b)	Before announcing the official results mentioned under sub section (a) of this section, it must be ensured that the list of voters sent by the polling stations to the central station in Male', matches with the preliminary results with result sheets.
Opening the Security envelops	45.	(a)	The Elections Commission may open and re-count the ballot papers of voters sealed in special security bags under the following circumstances. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where the Commission identifies any problems in the preparation of the preliminary results sent from the polling station. 2. For the purpose of investigating, where the Election Commission is of the opinion that the complaint submitted by any person in relation to the result of the polling station has

			<p>enough evidence to necessitate an investigation.</p> <p>3. A court order issued against the Elections Commission to open the sealed special security bags containing the ballot papers.</p> <p>4. The occurrence of any other circumstance than those prescribed herein, in which the Elections Commission is of the opinion that the validity of the votes is likely to be questioned.</p>
Procedure to be followed in opening the sealed security bags containing the ballot papers	46.	(a)	The special sealed security bags containing the ballot papers of the persons, who have voted, shall be opened in the presence of the candidates contesting in the Local council Election or in the presence of their representatives by persons appointed by the Elections Commission. Persons appointed in this manner shall not commit any act likely to diminish a right of any candidate. And shall not disclose any information gained during the process of the ballot count to any person other than the Elections Commission. Notwithstanding the above, disclosure on requirement to a court of law is exempted from this provision.
		(b)	Where the security bags are to be opened in a circumstance specified under sub-section (a), the candidates contesting in the Local council Election shall be informed 03 (Three) hours prior to the opening of the security bags through email, or sms or by a written letter or fax message, the place and time designated for the opening of the security bags.
		(c)	Permission shall be granted to the Local council Candidates or representatives of the candidates to enter into the place designated for the opening of security bags in the circumstance prescribed under sub-section (a) of this Section.
		(d)	A report detailing the process of opening and re-counting the ballot papers sealed in the special sealed security bags including all the information prescribed below shall be written, and signed by the most senior person in charge of the task, the person who wrote the report and the person who checked the report and submitted to the Elections

			<p>Commission.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of the polling station. 2. Date and time on which the security bag was opened. 3. Starting and ending time of the count of the ballot papers in the security bag. 4. Time on which the security bag was re-sealed. 5. Names, addresses and Maldivian identity card number of persons appointed to open the security bags. 6. Name, address and identity card number of any candidate or representative of a candidate present to supervise the opening of the security bag. 7. Number of valid ballot papers in the security bag. 8. Number of invalid ballot papers. 9. Number of votes received by each candidate.
		(e)	If the preliminary results need to be annulled, it should be annulled and the new preliminary results should be announced.
		(f)	No person shall commit any act likely to interfere with the work being done by any person opening the security bag and recounting the ballot papers. And any person other than the persons in charge of the process shall not touch any documents or materials used in this process.
		(g)	The Elections Commission shall issue a copy of the report prepared under subsection (c) of this Section, where any candidate or political party contesting in the election requests for the report.

Re-sealing the security bag	47		On completion of the process of opening the special sealed security bag containing the ballot papers of the persons who had voted, re-sealing the ballot papers in the special security bags designated for the purpose.
Code of conduct of persons conducting matters of the Local council Election	48.	(a)	<p>Permanent and temporary employees of the Elections Commission Administration, members of the of the Committees and Bureaus appointed to conduct the matters of the Local council Election, Focal Points, Officials appointed by the Commission to work at the polling stations and any other persons assigned the works of the Local council Election, shall comply to the Code of Conduct prescribed below, in undertaking the work assigned to them.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fulfilling the work assigned to the person I accordance with, the Constitution of the Republic of Maldives, Law No: 11/2008 (General Act on Elections), Law NO: 10/2010 (The Local council Election Act), the Regulations enacted under these Laws and the standards prescribed by the Elections Commission for the conduct of the Election. 2. Not doing any act likely to diminish any right vested by virtue of the Laws, in the voters, candidates, representatives of the candidate, observers, monitors and political parties. 3. Fulfilling the work assigned for the Local council Election by the Elections Commission, with honesty and integrity. 4. Not complying with the influence of any person in the work of the Election. <p>In doing the work relating to the Local council Election, refraining from favouring a particular candidate or a person(s) supporting or not supporting a particular candidate.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. 6. The person(s) working in the matters relating to the Local council Election being neutral persons (not in favour of any particular side) from the time of undertaking of the work.

			7. Making efforts and working towards ensuring that the Election is independent from influence, free, fair and transparent.
Establishing Elections Complaints Bureaus	49.	(a)	On announcement of the commencement of the process for applying for local council candidacy, a National Elections Complaints Bureau consisting of 05 (Five) members shall be established. And an Atoll/ City Elections Complaints Bureau consisting of 03 (Three) members shall be established in every City and Atoll other than in Male, 10(Ten) days prior to the Election day. On establishment of the complaint bureaus, the place of establishment of the bureaus, contact numbers, fax numbers, email addresses, and open hours shall be publicly announced.
		(b)	A minimum of 03 (Three) members of the 05 (Five) members in the National Elections Complaint Bureau shall be educated in the field of Sharia'/ Law or shall be persons having worked and gained experience in the field. The Elections Commission shall have the discretion to establish the Bureau including persons other than those educated in the field of Sharia'/Law where the required number of persons educated in the field are unavailable.
		(c)	The Atoll/City Elections Committee shall appoint the 03 (Three) members in the Atoll/City Elections Complaint Bureau, in accordance with the advise of the Elections Commission. One member in the Atoll/City Elections Complaint Bureau members in the National Elections Complaint Bureau shall be educated in the field of Sharia'/ Law or shall be a person having worked and gained experience in the field. The Elections Commission shall have the discretion to establish the Bureau including persons other than those educated in the field of Sharia'/Law where the required number of persons educated in the field are unavailable.
		(d)	Prior to the establishment of the Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureau, the Atoll/City Elections Committee shall be responsible for receiving complaints submitted in Atolls or Cities relating to the Local council Election, and taking measures practicable. Where a complaint requiring to be sent

			to the Elections Commission is submitted, the Atoll/City Elections Committee shall be responsible for submitting the complaint to the Elections Commission.
Island elections committees receiving complaints	50.	(a)	Where a complaint relating to the Election is submitted to the Island elections committee, necessary steps with regard to the complaint shall be made on a day-to-day basis. Where the Island Elections committee is unable to resolve the issue, the advise of the Atoll/City Elections Complaint Bureau may be obtained, if the Atoll/City Elections Complaint Bureau has been established. Prior to that the advise of the Atoll/City Elections Committee may be obtained.
		(b)	Where a complaint is submitted to the Atoll/City Elections Committee prior to the establishment of the Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureau, the complaint shall be dealt with in the manner directed by the National Elections Complaints Bureau. And on establishment of the Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureau, in the manner directed by that Bureau.
		(c)	Election related complaints in the Male' City shall be submitted directly to the National Elections Complaints Bureau. Complaints submitted prior to the establishment of the Elections Complaints Bureau, shall be submitted to the Administration of the Elections Commission.
Term of Complaints Bureaus	51.	(a)	The National Elections Complaint Bureau shall remain from the date of its establishment up to a period of 14 (Fourteen) days following the date on which the official election results are announced. Where a second round of the Election is required, the National Elections Complaint Bureau shall remain from the date of its establishment up to a period of 14 (Fourteen) days following the date on which the official election results of the second round are announced.
		(b)	Work of the Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureau will start 10 (Ten) days prior to the Election day and last until a period of 07 (Seven) days following the completion of the Election. And where a second round of the Elections is required, the Atoll/City Elections Complaint Bureau will last over a period of 07 (Seven) days following the completion of election

			and announcement of official results.
		(c)	The Elections Commission may extend the term of the Bureau to complete a work where a work relating to a complaint submitted is incomplete.
Chief of the Ballot Box	52.	(a)	The Chief of the Ballot box at every polling station shall be responsible for receiving the complaints arising in polling stations and undertaking the responsibility of the complaints officer.
		(b)	The complaints officer shall be responsible for investigating and resolving the complaints submitted to the Polling Station. Assistance of the Island Elections committee or the Election Commission Administration shall be sought where the officer is unable to resolve a complaint.
		(c)	Complaints may be submitted to the Atoll/City Complaints Bureau where the person is dissatisfied by the decision of the Chief of the ballot box or complaints officer in relation to the problems arising at the polling station. Complaints shall be submitted to the National Complaints Bureau if in Male'.
Submitting Complaints	53.	(a)	Complaints in relation to the Local Council Election shall be submitted to the Island elections committees, Atoll/City Elections Committee, Atoll/City Elections Complaints Bureau, National Elections Complaints Bureau and the Elections Commission. As such, complaints submitted in the Islands shall generally be submitted to the Island elections committee. Resorts and Industrial Islands shall submit to the Atoll Complaints Bureau of that Island. Complaints from Male', Prisons, and from countries outside the Maldives in which ballot boxes have been placed shall be submitted to the National Elections Complaints Bureau.

		(b)	Prior to the establishment of the complaints bureaus, the complaints shall be submitted in the Islands to the Island elections committees and Atoll/City Elections Committee. In Male' the complaints shall be submitted to the Elections Commission.
		(c)	Complaints in relation to the Island elections committees shall be submitted to the Atoll Complaints bureau if the bureau has been established. Complaints in relation to the Atoll/City Complaints Bureau and Atoll/City Elections Committee shall be submitted to the Elections Commission.
		(d)	Where a complaint in relation to an act done by any person in breach of Law No: 11/2008 (General Act on Elections) and Law No: 10/2010 (The Local Council Election Act) and Regulations enacted under these laws is being submitted to the Elections Commission, details of the complaint, including evidence, shall be submitted within 05 (Five) days starting from the date on which the election was held. Complaints submitted to the Island elections committees, Atoll/City Complaints Bureau, and National Complaints Bureau shall be regarded as complaints submitted to the Elections Commission. When submitting the complaint, the name, address and Maldivian national identity card number of the person submitting shall be included. Complaint shall be submitted using the form prescribed under Schedule 12 (Twelve) of this Regulation. Where a political party or organisation or institution is submitting a complaint the seal and signature of responsible person shall be included in the form.
		(e)	Arrangement shall be made to inform, the manner in which the complaint submitted is to be dealt with, to the person submitting the complaint within 02 (Two) days from the date
Investigating complaints and problems	54.		The complaints and problems submitted to the Island elections committees, Atoll/City Elections Committee, Complaints officers at the polling stations, Chief's of Ballot Boxes, Atoll/City Complaints Bureau and the National Complaints Bureau shall be investigated and immediate measures taken in relation to complaints requiring immediate solutions.

Archiving information relating to the complaints	55.	(a)	<p>Information relating to the complaints submitted in relation to the Local Council Election to the Island elections committees, Atoll/City Elections Committee, Complaints officers at the polling stations, Chief's of Ballot Boxes, Atoll/City Complaints Bureau and the National Complaints Bureaus shall be archived and maintained on a daily basis. In archiving the complaints in this manner, the following information shall be included.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full name, permanent address, current address and national identity card number of the person submitting the complaint. 2. Information of the person at which the complaint is directed (Name, address, and if known the Maldivian identity card number). 3. Nature of complaint submitted (A brief summary of the complaint). 4. Actions taken or the manner in which the complaint was resolved
		(b)	<p>Complaints submitted to the Island elections committee, Atoll/City Elections Committee and the Complaints Bureau shall be investigated, and necessary practicable actions taken and the complaint report shall be prepared on a daily basis and submitted as per the directions of the Elections Commission.</p>
		(c)	<p>A report prepared on the complaints submitted to the complaints bureaus, including the information prescribed under subsection (a) of this Section, shall be submitted by the National Complaints Bureau to the Elections Commission once a week.</p>
Preparing the Report on the Election	56.		<p>The Elections Commission shall prepare the report on the Local Council Election within 90 (Ninety) days of the Election being held.</p>
Deciding the number of members to be elected to the Island Council	57.		<p>The population of the island registered at the Island Council Office by December 31 of the previous year of announcing of Local council Elections, will be considered as the population of the island when deciding how many councilors need to be elected for the island council.</p>

Occurrence of a circumstance not prescribed under the Law and Regulation	58.		The Elections Commission shall determine the manner in which the matter shall be dealt with, where a circumstance prescribed under the General Act on Elections and the Local Council Election Act and Regulations prescribed under these Acts occurs.
Implementing the Regulation	59.		This Regulation shall be implemented on the date this Regulation is Gazetted. And the Regulation enacted on 17 th August 2010 by the Elections Commission, cited as the “Local Council Election Regulation 2010”, shall be overruled on the date this Regulation is Gazetted.
Definitions	60.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Election” shall mean the Local Council Election to be held under section 2 of Law No. 12/2008 (Local Council Elections Act). 2. “Advisory Committee” shall mean the committee established by the Elections Commission under this regulation to advise and consult on matters of the Local Council election. 3. “Polling Station” shall mean any location in which a ballot box has been placed for voting in the election. Polling and ballot count shall take place at this location. 4. “Poll Booth” shall be the area designated place a mark on the ballot paper. 5. “Observers” shall mean any persons permitted by the Elections Commission as prescribed by Law No. 11/2008 (General Act on Elections) and this regulation, to observe the Local Council Election. 6. “Monitors” shall mean any media personnel permitted by the Elections Commission as prescribed by Law No. 11/2008 (General Act on Elections) and this regulation, to monitor the polling areas, polling stations, and other election matters on the date of the Local Council Election. 7. “Party” or “Political Party” shall mean any political party registered at the elections commission under the laws and regulations governing the operation and management of political parties in Maldives. 8. “Persons responsible for monitoring the polling” shall mean any employee of or persons appointed by the Elections

			<p>Commission for monitoring all the matters relating to polling and ballot count at the polling stations.</p> <p>9. "Family members" shall mean the mother, father, child, spouse, sibling or half sibling of a person.</p> <p>10. "Official document clarifying identity" shall mean any unexpired document with a photograph from; the Maldivian Identity Card, Maldivian Passport, and Government issued driving licence.</p> <p>11. "Complaints officer" shall mean the Chief of the ballot box.</p> <p>12. "Focal Point" shall mean persons appointed by the Elections Commission to perform administrative work related to the election, and any other work assigned by the Elections Commission in that island.</p> <p>13. "Atoll/ City Elections Committee" shall mean the committee of 3 (three) members appointed by the Elections Commission to perform administrative work related to the election, and any other work assigned by the Elections Commission in that island.</p> <p>14. "Complaints Bureau" shall mean the units established to receive complaints on matters of the election.</p> <p>15. Public holidays shall be included when calculating days regarding matters of election stated in this regulation.</p> <p>16. Unless the context in which a word or phrase is used expressly states otherwise, words importing the singular shall include plural, and words imposing the plural shall include the singular.</p>
Number of Sections and Schedules	61.		This regulation contains 61 sections and 12 schedules.