



جمهورية العراق
المفوضية العليا المستقلة للانتخابات
كۆميسونى بالآى سه ربه خوى هه لىزارد نه كان
The Independent High Electoral Commission

According to the authority given to the Board of commissioner of the item (4), article (8) of the Independent High Electoral Commission's law No. (11), in the year 2007; we decided issuing the following regulation:-

Regulation no.3
(Electoral and Referendum Observers)

(Preamble)

The independent High (Supreme) Electoral Commission in Iraq has been established according to law no (11) of the year 2007 to be precisely the only electoral authority in Iraq, The commission is professional, autonomous, independent, and neutral, subjected to the supervision of council of representatives.

1st Section
(Terms of IHEC)

The following terms represented the meaning in the face of each one of them:-

1. **"Commission and IHEC"** means The Independent High (Supreme) Electoral Commission
2. **"Electoral and Referendum Team of observers"** means a registered group In IHEC, observe the range of integrity of stages of electoral operations and the (regional, local, and federal) referendum, in line with the stage of Voter registration Update, passing the polling stage and finishing with Counting and Sorting operation to achieve the goal of estimating it then raising a report about it.
3. **"Electoral and Referendum Observer"** means a person who registered in group of observers accredited by IHEC to observe stages of electoral and referendum operations on behalf of the electoral observer.
4. **"Code of Conduct"** means the Electoral and Referendum Observer Code of Conduct issued by the IHEC.

2nd Section
(Accreditation of Electoral and Referendum Observers)

1. Electoral and Referendum Observers are an important element of the democratic process. They are independent from any governmental and IHEC directions, their role is restricted in observing the Electoral and referendum operational stages to produce a report that reflects their integrity and adherence to international standards.
2. Iraqi and International groups were registered by IHEC to observe all Electoral and Referendum aspects, and appointed the registered teams as observers to enable the team to achieve its job effectively.
3. Teams of observers are accredited by IHEC, exclusively, as IHEC never accredited any individual observers, only observers accredited and only who are parts of an observer group registered with the IHEC; will be allowed to observe the electoral process.
4. Accreditation of the teams and their observers required signing on the Code of Conduct and to be abiding with it. Electoral and Referendum Teams of Observers are responsible for the adherence of their nominated observers to the Code of Conduct. It allowed IHEC to withdraw the registration or accreditation of a team or one of the Electoral and Referendum observers who violated rules of Codes of Conduct.
5. An electoral observer group, whose accreditation has been withdrawn, may appeal against the Board's decision within three days from the next date of publication. The appeal shall be submitted to the National Office or to any other IHEC office in regions and governorates.
6. The Board's decision is final and can be appealed before the Electoral Judicial Panel, according to section 8 of IHEC law No.11 of 2007.
7. The IHEC shall issue procedures to control the registration of/ and withdrawal of the registration of the electoral observer groups, and the accreditation of such groups' nominated observers.



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3rd Section

(Conditions of operation for observers)

1. IHEC is not responsible for the transmission, safety, and communications or other support to the electoral observer team.
2. Each group registered with IHEC shall be solely responsible for all support arrangements and costs in their observing duties (transport, residence, safety, and communications); The IHEC shall not be responsible for any of these costs. Furthermore, any team of observers and their observers should not use any of the IHEC means such as equipments or motor vehicles.
3. All teams should fully inform their accredited observers about the (Electoral, Referendum, and the Code of Conduct) operations, before the beginning of any of their activities.
4. Each observer should sign his/her badge on receipt. Electoral observers must carry an alternative means of identifications complete with signature or photograph to enable electoral staff in registration centers, Referendum, and Ballot to confirm their identity.
5. Observers may not, under any circumstances, interfere with the referendum and Electoral operations or raise a complaint about it. They may draw the attention of (IHEC staff, the BOC, and the CEO) to issues which they wish to raise; those are not obliged to act upon their comments.
6. Observers will report their observations to their leaders, by then the team may issue an official public report to comment on these observations to IHEC about the results of their activities. They must, whenever possible, provide evidences and arguments to support all their assumptions and judgments when presenting these reports.

4th Sections

(Date of enforceability)

This Regulation shall enter into force from the date of its ratification by the Board of Commissioners on 2/ 2/ 2008.

Board of Commissioners

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