

جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان
کمیسیون شکایات انتخاباتی



د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت
د ټاکنیزو شکایتونو کمیسیون

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Electoral Complaints Commission

Press release

Kabul City May 24th, 2010.

During the course of a media conference attended by all five ECC commissioners the following information was made known:

During the display of the preliminary list of candidates for the Wolesi Jirga (lower house) elections – a procedure intended to allow for challenges and corrections to the list – the IEC furnished a schedule to the ECC reflecting details of 226 aspirant candidates whose names the IEC had omitted from the preliminary list. The reason given by the IEC for the omission of the names was the same in each case, namely that the list of supporters that had to be attached to the application was defective in one or more respects.

The ECC examined the schedule and heard oral representations by a seven-person delegation speaking on behalf of all 226 persons whose names had been omitted. At the request of the ECC a senior member of the IEC secretariat briefed the ECC on the general procedure followed in receiving applications for registration as a candidate. It also enquired into the procedure followed when the disputed applications were presented to the IEC and debated the reliability of some of the data on which the IEC had relied in rejecting the applications in question.

While the ECC was satisfied that many of the lists of supporters might well have been defective, some deliberately so, it was also clear that in no case had the applicant been told of the perceived defect or given an opportunity to supplement, correct or replace the defective documents. At the same time it was clear that there were technical weaknesses in the voters' roll and the supply of voters' cards which made it difficult to establish to what extent the supporters' lists and accompanying voters' cards were defective. It would therefore ultimately be difficult to arrive at a firm conclusion as to the cause of and liability for the defects in any individual case.

The ECC considered that, although many of the 226 applicants in question had probably been at fault in submitting defective documents in support of their applications for registration as candidates, others had not been. The ECC, mindful of the need to promote free and inclusive elections, decided that the unsuccessful applicants should in fairness all be afforded an adequate opportunity to correct the defect(s) in their documents. Having

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conferred with the IEC, the ECC concluded that a period of five days would be sufficient for that purpose. The name of every applicant whose application is duly corrected within such period will be included in the list, provided that the rights of potential challengers are preserved by correspondingly extending the period for challenges in these cases.

Electoral Complaints Commission

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