

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 - June 19th, 2010.

The members of the Electoral Complaints Commission wish to report on their activities since their appointment on 18 April 2010.

Following recruiting visits to the provinces by commissioners, 113 members of Provincial Election Complaints Commissions (PECCs) were formally appointed by President Karzai and PECC offices have been set up all over the country. A threeday training programme for provincial commissioners and all staff is to be conducted shortly.

A significant stage of the electoral process has just come to an end in which challenges were invited to the candidacy of individuals on the preliminary list for election to the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House). The ECC adjudicated a total of 428 challenges received during the period from 12 May to 18 June 2010. Details of its decisions are as follows:

1. 296 complaints were received from 226 aspirant candidates who had been excluded from the preliminary candidate list owing to defects in their candidacy documentation. They were allowed five days to correct such defects; in the result, 195 candidates were added to the preliminary list.
2. 79 out of 88 individual challenges were dismissed on a variety of grounds, largely because the allegations did not constitute electoral offences. Seven names were ordered to be removed because of the candidates' failure to resign from their official positions before nomination, and one for providing false registration information as to his identity. One registration was ordered to be altered from party representation to personal candidacy.
3. 44 individual challenges alleged membership of illegal armed groups. Of these, two names were already on the official list submitted by the Special Investigation Commission on Leadership or Membership of Illegal Armed Groups (generally known as the Vetting Commission) and were ordered to be removed. The remaining 42 challenges were dismissed.
4. 89 (corrected to 83) individuals who were investigated by the Vetting Commission and whose names were submitted to the ECC for removal from the preliminary candidate list were allowed five days in which to persuade the Vetting Commission that they are not

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members of such groups. Ultimately the Vetting Commission exonerated 78 of them and the ECC instructed the IEC to remove the names of the remaining five individuals from the preliminary candidate list because of their membership of illegal armed groups,

5. On 17 June the Vetting Commission provided the ECC with eight additional names of individuals on the preliminary list that it identified as members of illegal armed groups. The ECC is allowing these individuals five days in which to persuade the Vetting Commission that they are not members of such groups. At the end of this period the ECC, upon the (final) decision of the Vetting Commission, will instruct the IEC accordingly.

Once the final list of candidates for the Wolesi Jirga elections has been announced by the IEC, the ECC will be in a position to investigate and decide on complaints received against any of the candidates during the campaign period of 23 June to 16 September.

It should be noted that the ECC, acting in terms of article 85.2 of the Constitution, is obliged to disqualify all candidates who upon conviction have been deprived of their civil or political rights by an authorised court and will exercise such power during the ensuing phases of the electoral process.

Electoral Complaints Commission

Shashdarak - Koche Afghanhaa - Opposite Setara High School
Kabul, Afghanistan

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