



PRESS STATEMENT

August 24, 2009

Total Complaints received on and after Polling Day	790
Total Complaints assessed as Priority A	54
Total Complaints received to date (including Campaign Period)	1157

Complaints Updates

- 790 Complaints filed during Polling and Counting have been received at the ECC Complaints Processing Center (CPC) **as of 4pm on August 24, 2009**. The vast majority of these Complaints were submitted directly to the Provincial ECC offices or the ECC Headquarters in Kabul. The remaining Complaints were filed at a number of polling stations in Kabul, Ghor and Dai Kundi provinces;
- After Complaints have undergone intake, they are assessed and placed into one of three categories. Category A Complaints are those which if proved valid could have material effect on the results. Category A Complaints are given priority in regards to investigation and adjudication;
- Received Complaints vary. They include allegations of ballot stuffing, poor quality ink, intimidation and accusations against polling staff;
- The ECC has deployed and tasked investigators to the provinces of Kandahar, Ghazni, Wardak, Kunduz, Paktika, Paktia and Baghlan.

Reminders

- In order for the elections results to be certified, the ECC must first adjudicate Complaints it has received;
- The ECC Complaints Processing Center is based in at the UNOCA Compound on Jalalabad Road. Observers, Media and Polling Agents are welcome to visit the Center between 2 and 3pm each day, by appointment only (please call Ahmad Muslim Khuram, contact details below, to arrange a visit). Cameras are not allowed on the premises;
- IEC conducts its own internal audits regarding polling irregularities;
- The ECC reminds persons or organizations intending to file complaints that its Rules of Procedure require complaints to be filed within 72 hours after an alleged violation has taken place. Complaints filed at the polling stations on Election Day are still being received at the ECC CPC, as the IEC retrieval process continues.

The Electoral Complaints Commission of Afghanistan is an independent body established under Article 52 of the Electoral Law to adjudicate all complaints concerning the electoral process. Complaints must be submitted within 72 hours of the offence. All complaints submitted to the ECC will be dealt with in an impartial, transparent and timely manner. The ECC will be thorough about serious cases, and candidates and their supporters should be patient for the outcome of the complaints process.

For more information, please contact:

Ahmad Muslim Khuram
ahmad.muslem@ecc.org.af
+93 (0) 798188605