

**Presidential Elections Committee  
(2014)**

**Presidential Elections Committee  
Decree no. 5 /2014**

On the Regulations Governing the Observation of the 2014 Election for the President of the Republic by Egyptian Civil Society Organizations

**The Presidential Elections Committee,**

Having perused:

The Constitution;

and Decree Law no. 22 /2014 on the Regulation of the Presidential Elections;

and Presidential Elections Committee Decree no. 1 /2014 on the Rules Governing the Committee's Exercising of its Competences;

and Law no. 84 /2002 on Associations and Civic Foundations and its Executive Regulations;

and the approval of the Presidential Elections Committee in its session held on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014;

**Decided:**

**Article (1)**

Egyptian Civil Society Organizations working in the field of Election Observation, Human Rights and Supporting Democracy shall be allowed to observe the 2014 Presidential Election, according to the regulations prescribed herein, upon obtaining an Observation Permit from the Presidential Elections Committee. The Observation Permit may not be considered as license or basis for practicing any other activity in Egypt.

**Article (2)**

Observation of the Electoral Process refers to all activities of observation of all procedures in connection with candidate registration, election campaigning, polling, ballot-counting, and announcement of election results.

Observers are prohibited from interfering with or disrupting the electoral process in any way; as well as influencing voters or campaigning for candidates; and they may not under any circumstances give any grants, gifts, assistance or benefits to, or accept any of that from, any candidate or his/her supporters.

**Article (3)**

Egyptian Civil Society Organizations applying for an Election Observation Permit must meet the following requirements :

- 1- Being registered in accordance with the law;
- 2- Being of good reputation and of recognized impartiality and integrity;
- 3- Having previous experience in the field of observing elections.

**Article (4)**

An Egyptian Civil Society Organization Representative wishing to observe the election must meet the following requirements:

- 1- Being registered in the voter database.
- 2- Never having been convicted for a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude or breach of trust, even if rehabilitated.

**Article (5)**

An Organization wishing to observe the Election of the President of the Republic should submit an application to the Presidential Elections Committee for permission to observe the 2014 Presidential Election no later than April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The following documents must be attached to the application:

- 1- A certified true copy of the registration decision of the organization or association;
- 2- A recent certificate by the competent Minister stating that the organization is operational; that it has not violated any laws or regulations; and that its area of activity, according to its license, is related to the fields of Election Observation, Human Rights and Supporting Democracy;
- 3- An executive summary on the organization, its license, activities and previous experience in the field of Election Observation;
- 4- A statement of the number of observers in each Governorate.

The Committee may request any other documents as it sees fit.

#### **Article (6)**

A committee shall be formed from the members of the General Secretariat of the Presidential Elections Committee to receive and examine the applications of organizations wishing to be permitted to observe the 2014 Presidential Election. The said committee's recommendation to accept or reject an application shall be submitted within the following twenty four hours to the Presidential Elections Committee for a decision.

#### **Article (7)**

The Presidential Elections Committee issues its decision on the Civil Society Organizations permitted to observe the election. The representative or designee of each organization shall receive from the headquarters of the Presidential Elections Committee, located at the State Information Service in Salah Salem Street, a number of non-replicable codes to be used for submitting the details for the number of observers specified by the organization through the website of the Presidential Elections Committee ([www.elections.eg](http://www.elections.eg)) no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014, by filling in the data requested on the website and endorsed by the Presidential Elections Committee. The details must particularly include:

- 1- A scanned recent personal photograph of the observer, on white background, size 4x6.
- 2- A scanned image of both sides of the national identification card.

The committee formed from the members of the General Secretariat of the Presidential Elections Committee, provided for in article 6 above, shall examine the details of observers submitted to the Committee's website. The Presidential Elections Committee is entitled to decline the registration of observers with incomplete data.

#### **Article (8)**

The Presidential Elections Committee shall issue identification cards to the accepted observers of permitted organizations no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The representative of the organization or his/her designee shall receive the Election Observation identification cards from the headquarters of the Presidential Elections Committee. The observers themselves are not allowed to frequent the headquarters of the Committee for this purpose under any circumstances.

#### **Article (9)**

Observers shall be entitled to enter polling and counting stations and district committees by virtue of the identification cards issued by the Presidential Elections Committee.

An observer may not remain within any polling station for more than half an hour. Chairpersons of polling stations and of district committees may, when necessary, reduce the duration of

observer presence and/or limit the number of observers in the station or committee location, so as not to hamper the work of the committee.

The instructions of the Chairpersons of polling stations and of district committees in this regard are to be observed at all times.

**Article (10)**

Organizations permitted to observe the election shall abide by all provisions regulating the electoral process in laws, bylaws and decrees; they should perform their observing functions in accordance with the rules and regulations set out by the Presidential Elections Committee; they should adhere to accuracy, impartiality and objectivity; and they should not use the observation of election to further political or partisan objectives.

**Article (11)**

A permitted organization should immediately inform the Presidential Elections Committee of any remarks revealed during observation and deemed important for the Committee to take notice of. The Committee shall study and verify such remarks, and take the necessary measures.

**Article (12)**

It is prohibited to give comments, data or statistics in connection with the electoral process, or to announce the result of the election before it is formally announced by the Presidential Elections Committee.

**Article (13)**

The organization shall prepare, upon the conclusion of the electoral process, a report on the results of observation, maintaining impartiality and relying on demonstrable facts and technical evaluation that highlights the positive or negative aspects revealed during observation. The report should reflect - objectively - the official response that will have been issued by the Presidential Elections Committee with regard to the remarks of the organization.

**Article (14)**

Without prejudice to the penalties provided for in Decree Law No. 22 /2014 on the Regulation of the Presidential Elections, the Presidential Elections Committee may revoke the permit issued to any election observer in the case of violation of the regulations prescribed herein.

The Committee may revoke the permit issued to the organization if it was found responsible for the violation.

**Article (15)**

This decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and enters into force as of the day following its date of publication.

Issued in Cairo on the 28<sup>th</sup> of Jumada al-Ula, 1435 A.H. (March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 A.D.)

**Chairman of the Presidential Elections Committee**

**Justice/ Anwar Rashad El Assy**

**First Deputy to the President of the Supreme Constitutional Court**