

## **Presidential Decree No. 22/2014, on the Regulation of the Presidential Elections**

### **The Interim President**

Having perused the amended Constitution of 18<sup>th</sup> January 2014;  
and Law No. 73 of 1956 on the Regulation of the Exercise of Political Rights;  
and Law No. 174 of 2005 on the Regulation the presidential elections;  
upon approval by the Council of Ministers thereof;  
and on the basis of the views expressed by the Council of State;

has decided the following provisions:

### **Chapter I: Conditions Regarding Candidacy for the Presidency**

#### **Article (1)**

The President of the Republic shall be elected through public, direct and secret vote by voters entered in the voter registration database. Each voter shall exercise his/her right personally.

Candidates for the presidency of the Republic shall meet the following conditions:

1. The candidate must be Egyptian born to Egyptian parents.
2. Neither the candidate, nor any of the candidate's parents or spouse, shall have never acquired citizenship of another country.
3. The candidate shall be in possession of a higher educational qualification.
4. The candidate shall be in full enjoyment of his/her civil and political rights.
5. The candidate shall not have been convicted for any felony or crime involving moral turpitude, or dishonesty, even if the candidate had been rehabilitated thereafter.
6. The candidate must have performed, or been legally exempted from, the military service.
7. The candidate shall not be less than 40 years of age on the day of opening the period for candidates' candidacy.
8. The candidate shall be free from any physical or mental illness that may influence the performance of the duties and functions of the President of the Republic.

#### **Article (2)**

For a candidacy to the presidency of the Republic to be accepted, the candidate shall have to obtain endorsement by no less than twenty members of the House of Representatives; otherwise, to be supported by at least twenty-five thousand citizens eligible to vote, from no less than fifteen governorates, with a minimum of one thousand supporters from each such governorate.

In all cases, it is prohibited to extend support or endorsement for more than one candidate.

The first presidential elections to be held after the enactment of this law, and before the parliamentary elections, shall be based on the citizens' support option.

### **Chapter II: The Presidential Elections Committee (PEC)**

#### **Article (3)**

The full supervision of the forthcoming presidential elections by virtue of this Law shall be vested in the existing Presidential Elections Committee (PEC) at the time of enacting the Constitution, which is chaired by the President of the Supreme Constitutional Court and comprises of the following members:

- The President of the Cairo Court of Appeals
- The most senior deputy of the President of the Supreme Constitutional Court
- The most senior deputy of the President of the Court of Cassation
- The most senior deputy of the President of the State Council.

In the event of absence of the Chairman of the PEC, the most senior deputy of the President of the Supreme Constitutional Court shall be assigned as a replacement. In this case, and during the period of absence of the Chairman, the second most senior deputy of the President of the Supreme Constitutional Court shall then join the membership of the Committee. In the absence of any other member of the Committee, such member shall be replaced by the following most senior member of his/her judicial body.

#### **Article(4)**

The PEC shall enjoy a public juridical personality, shall have its headquarters in the city of Cairo, and shall enjoy independence in the exercise of its competencies.

The PEC shall have its own special budget that shall be included in the general state budget.

The PEC may, when necessary, hold its meetings at any other location it determines.

#### **Article(5)**

The PEC shall meet at the call of its Chairman, and its meetings shall not be valid unless attended by no less than four of its members, including its Chairman. The PEC decisions shall be adopted by a majority of no less than three of its members. Such decisions shall be published in the Official Gazette as set forth in this law.

The PEC shall have a General Secretariat, which shall be established by a decision issued by its Chairman. The PEC shall issue the required regulations and decisions to regulate the functions of the Secretariat, and the way to discharge its competencies.

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

The PEC shall hold exclusive responsibility for the following:

1. To oversee the preparation of the voter registration database on the basis of the data obtained through the national identification number records, its contents and the method of its revision, verification and updating, and to supervise the registration process and the correction of lists.
2. To announce the opening of the period for candidates' candidacy to run for the presidency of the Republic.
3. To establish the required candidacy procedures to run for the presidency of the Republic, and to supervise their implementation.
4. To receive applications for candidacy to run for the presidency of the Republic, and examine and verify the fulfillment of all conditions by the hopeful applicants.
5. To identify the competent authority to certify the medical check-ups for the candidates.
6. To compile and publicize the final list of candidates, and announce the deadline and procedures for withdrawal of candidates.
7. To determine the date of commencement and closure of the electoral campaign.
8. To set up the regulatory rules governing the election campaign as provided for in this law, and to ensure their implementation in a way that ensures equality among all candidates in accessing state-owned media, whether audio or visual or newspapers and publications of media institutions, for the purpose of election-related propaganda, and to take appropriate measures when regulations are violated.
9. To establish rules and procedures to notify candidates for the presidency of the Republic of the decisions issued by the PEC.
10. To call the voters to vote for the election of the President of the Republic, and to fully supervise the polling and counting procedures.
11. To set up rules and regulations governing the involvement of local and international media and CSO's in following (*watching*) the electoral process.

12. To formulate the necessary regulations to organize the work of the PEC, and how to discharge its competencies.
13. To decide on all matters referred to it by the district committees.
14. To make final decisions on all election-related challenges, appeals and grievances.
15. To receive compiled electoral results, and determine the final results of the election and publicize them.

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

The PEC decrees shall be final and binding by themselves. They may not be appealed in any manner or in front of any body. The PEC decisions shall not be impeded or repealed in any way.

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

The PEC may contribute to promoting awareness among the citizens on the importance of the presidential elections and urge them to participate therein.

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

State bodies shall abide themselves within the realm of their competencies to assist the PEC in the preparation for the electoral activities and all other related duties. The PEC may, in the due course of discharging its competencies, request any documents, data or information it considers necessary from any concerned body within the deadlines that the PEC decides. The PEC may request any documents or information from any official or public body. The PEC may also request any official body, or the experts it resorts to, to conduct any investigation, research, or study necessary to decide on matters brought to its consideration.

### **Chapter III: Candidacy Procedures for the post of President of the Republic**

#### **Article (10)**

The dates to commence the procedures for electing the President of the Republic, the voting day, and the date for the second electoral round shall be determined by the PEC, taking into consideration the deadlines provided for in the Constitution. The PEC decree to this effect shall be published in the Official Gazette, as well as in two widely circulated daily newspapers.

#### **Article (11)**

Endorsements by members of the House of Representatives in support of candidates for the presidency of the Republic shall be made using the relevant forms established by the PEC. The form must show the verified individual data of the candidate, as well as the personal information of the House member supporting the candidate and her/his membership of the House. The form must also include a statement that the House member did not endorse any other candidate. The House member must sign the form, which shall be certified together with all the data included therein through the General Secretariat of the House of Representatives.

Citizens' support for candidates to the presidency of the Republic shall be made using the relevant form established by the PEC. The form must show the verified individual data of the candidate, as well as the personal data of the supporting citizen, her/his national ID card number and place of domicile. The form shall also include a statement that the citizen did not support this or any other candidate already. The citizen shall sign the form and certify that, free of charge, through a registration office at the real estate and documentation registry (Notary), a district court registrar, or any other body that the PEC may determine, all in accordance with the regulations set forth by the PEC.

### **Article (12)**

The candidacy application shall be submitted to the PEC, using the form established by and within the period determined by the PEC, which shall be not less than ten days nor exceed thirty days from the date of opening the candidacy period.

The candidacy application must be submitted with the documents specified by the PEC, particularly including the following:

1. The forms of endorsement or support of the candidate.
2. Birth certificate of the candidate or an official copy thereof.
3. Certified copy of the educational qualification held by the candidate.
4. A statement by the candidate indicating that s/he is an Egyptian born to Egyptian parents, and that s/he, her/his parents nor spouse hold a citizenship of another country.
5. Criminal records certificate of the candidate.
6. Testimony that the candidate has completed or has been legally exempted from the military service.
7. Financial disclosure as provided for in Law No. 62 of 1975 on illegal earnings.
8. Medical report issued by the entity decided by the PEC on the results of the medical check-up performed for the candidate.
9. A statement that the candidate had never been convicted of any felony or crime involving immoral act or dishonesty, even if s/he had been rehabilitated.
10. Receipt showing payment of the sum of twenty thousand pounds for the benefit of the PEC treasury, as an insurance deposit, refundable after the promulgation of electoral results deducting the expenses incurred for publishing and removal of electoral posters, as the case may be.
11. A statement indicating the address where the candidate opts to receive all communications from the PEC.

All documents, statements, and records submitted by the candidate shall be considered as official documents in the application of the provisions of the penal code.

### **Article(13)**

Applications for candidacy shall be entered in a special register, according to the date and time of their submission, against receipts. Submission and archiving of applications shall be as per the rules and procedures set by the PEC.

The PEC shall, within the two days following the closing date of the candidacy period, announce the names of applicants for candidacy and the numbers of their supporters in two widely circulated daily newspapers.

Each candidate may object to the PEC against the candidacy of any other applicant, indicating the causes for such objection, within two days from the date of the announcement, and in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the PEC.

### **Article (14)**

The PEC shall examine all applications for candidacy, and shall ensure compliance with the conditions set by the Constitution and the law, and shall decide on all objections submitted in accordance with the provisions of the previous article, all within the five days following the deadline for the submission of objections.

### **Article (15)**

The PEC shall notify applicants whose applications are rejected, indicating the reasons for its decision to reject their candidacy, within a period not exceeding twenty-four hours of the date of issuing the rejection decision and in accordance with the procedures established by the PEC.

Rejected applicants may appeal the PEC's decision to reject their candidacy within the two days following the date of notification. The PEC shall decide on the appeal within the two days following the end of the appeals period, having heard the

statements of the appellant, or having the appellant failed to appear before the PEC once notified to do so.

#### **Article (16)**

The PEC shall prepare a final list of candidates, ordered in accordance with the sequence of applications' receipt, and shall announce this list by way of publication in the official gazette and in two widely circulated daily newspapers, no less than twenty days before the determined polling day.

#### **Article (17)**

A candidate may withdraw her/his candidacy by submission of a written request addressed to the PEC before the announcement of the final candidates' list. A candidate may also renounce his candidacy by submission of a written notice to the PEC within no less than fifteen days before polling day. The PEC shall publish such renunciation in the Official Gazette, and in two widely circulated daily newspapers, within two days from the date of submission of the notice to renounce.

### **Chapter IV: Electoral Campaign Rules**

#### **Article (18)**

The electoral campaign shall commence from the date of announcement of the final candidates' list, and shall last until two days before the date set for voting. In the case of a second round election, campaigning shall start from the day following the announcement of the results in the first round, and shall last until midday (*twelve noon*) of the day immediately before the date set for voting in the second round. Campaigning shall be prohibited outside these deadlines by any means.

Electoral campaign includes the activities carried out by the candidate and her/his supporters, aimed at convincing voters to choose the candidate, through closed and public meetings, dialogues, the publication and distribution of electoral campaign materials, the display of posters, banners and the use of audio-visual media, print or electronic, and any other activities permitted by the law or by the decrees of the PEC.

#### **Article (19)**

Electoral campaigns must adhere to the provisions of the Constitution, the law and the decrees of the PEC.

In particular, the following shall be prohibited:

1. Exposure of the private lives of any of the candidates.
2. Threatening of national unity or the use of religious slogans or calls for discrimination among citizens.
3. Use of violence or threats to use violence.
4. Giving gifts, donations, in-kind or cash assistance, or other benefits or promises of providing any such benefits, whether directly or indirectly.
5. Use of buildings and facilities, as well as means of transportation and movement owned by the state or by state-owned companies or the public sector for electoral campaigning in any form.
6. Use of government departments, public facilities, worship houses, schools, universities and other education institutions, whether public or private, and headquarters of civil society associations and organizations for electoral campaigning purposes.
7. Spending public funds, and those of state owned companies and the public sector, as well as funds of civil society associations and organizations for the purposes of election campaigning.
8. Writing by any means on the walls of government or private premises for the purposes of election campaigning.

#### **Article (20)**

State-owned audio-visual media and press institutions shall be committed to equal treatment of all candidates in its use for the purposes of election campaigns.

The PEC shall take the measures it deems appropriate in connection with violations of the provisions of this article, and may particularly order the immediate cessation or removal of such a violation, without prejudice of the disciplinary responsibility of violators.

#### **Article(21)**

Opinion polls published or broadcast by the media related to presidential elections must include full information about the organization that conducted the polls, the financing party, the questions included in the poll, sample size and its location, the methodologies applied and data collection methods, dates of conduct, and the ratio of possible error factors in the results.

It is prohibited to publish or broadcast any opinion polls during the five days prior to the voting day and until the end of voting.

#### **Article(22)**

The ceiling amount a candidate may spend on the electoral campaign shall be twenty million pounds. In the case of a second round election, the ceiling amount shall be five million pounds.

#### **Article(23)**

Each candidate may receive cash or in-kind donations from natural Egyptian persons, provided that the donation of any natural person shall not exceed the equivalent to two percent of the ceiling amount allowed for spending in the electoral campaign.

The candidate shall open an account in the local currency in a bank specified by the PEC, where donations shall be deposited together with what the candidate allocates to the campaign from her/his own resources. The bank and the candidate shall continually inform the PEC of the amounts deposited in this account and their source. The candidate shall notify the PEC of all expenses paid for from this account, within the deadlines and in accordance with the procedures established by the PEC. The candidate shall not dispend on the electoral campaign from any source other than this account.

The PEC shall distribute any remaining balance in the campaign bank account among its contributors in proportion to their contributions, and according to its own procedures.

#### **Article(24)**

It is prohibited to receive any cash or in-kind donations or support for the electoral campaign from any juridical Egyptian or foreign person, or from any foreign country or entity or international organization or any entity in which capital a foreign person participates, or from any natural foreign person.

#### **Article(25)**

The candidate must submit to the PEC, within fifteen days from the date of announcement of the election results, a statement indicating the total amounts of funds received, their sources and nature, amounts spent on the electoral campaign, and areas of their disbursement.

The candidate may delegate to another person the implementation of all duties and procedural requirements necessary to implement the provisions of this law, including all financial matters, by means of a power of attorney certified by a registration office

of the real estate and documentation registry, providing the PEC with an official copy of such power of attorney.

#### **Article(26)**

The Central Auditing Organization (CAO) shall audit the candidates' campaign accounts, and shall submit a report on the outcomes of its findings to the PEC, within fifteen days from the date of referral of such accounts to the CAO by the PEC.

### **Chapter V: Voting and Counting Procedures**

#### **Article (27)**

Voting shall be conducted in one day or more, under the full supervision of the Presidential Elections Committee.

The PEC shall establish Polling Stations to oversee the voting and counting, under the chairmanship of a member of one of the judicial bodies. Such member may chair more than one Polling Station, provided that they are all combined together inside one location, without any dividing partitions, thus allowing the chair to effectively oversee them all.

The Polling Stations shall be supervised by district committees established by the PEC with members of judicial bodies, in accordance with the rules and procedures set by the PEC.

The PEC shall assign one or more original Secretary and a sufficient number of alternates for each general and Polling Station from among the state civil servants.

The PEC shall be responsible to determine the number of district committees and Polling Stations, their locations and their working procedures, in coordination with the competent bodies.

The PEC may, when necessary, appoint members of the judicial bodies to perform as alternate substitutes to the chairs of Polling Stations, and to the chairs and members of district committees. It may also appoint original and alternate members from the judicial bodies in each governorate to assist the district committees in supervising the orderly conduct of elections in the governorate, or to assume chairmanship of the Polling Stations or to replace the chair or members of the district committees when needed.

#### **Article(28)**

At the end of the voting process, each Polling Stations shall commence the counting process, by determining the number of registered voters in the committee's list, the number of those who cast their votes, the number of valid and invalid ballot papers and the total votes obtained by each candidate. This shall be recorded in one or more minutes for all the Stations supervised by the chairperson member of a judicial body. The chairperson shall announce these results in front of candidates' agents or their representatives present at the polling station, and shall hand, in one official report, to the chair of the relevant district committee, the counting results for all the Polling Stations under her/his supervision. The report shall be signed by the chairperson and the secretaries of all Polling Stations included in the report. A copy of the counting report shall be handed to candidates' agents or representatives upon their request.

Media and CSOs representatives authorized by the PEC to watch the elections and the counting process and announcement of results as described above, shall be allowed to be present in so far as their presence does not obstruct the activities of the Station/ committee.

#### **Article (29)**

Egyptians who are outside the country on the presidential elections day will have the right to cast their votes in the election, provided that their names are entered onto the

voters' database, and they are in possession of a national ID card or a valid passport reflecting a national ID number.

The PEC shall issue, upon recommendations by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a decision determining the number and location of voting stations abroad, and forming their polling Station with the sufficient number of diplomatic or consular staff members, including one or more original secretary for each Station from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs staff.

The voting process abroad shall commence ahead of voting day in Egypt, as per the regulations and procedures established by the PEC and shall last for a period of time as prescribed by the PEC.

Upon completion of voting, the polling Station shall implement the counting process, by determining the number of voters who cast their votes, the number of valid and invalid votes, and the number of valid votes obtained by each candidate. The counting results shall be entered onto a minutes signed by the Stations chairperson and secretary.

The voting papers, voters list and the minutes, together with any challenges filed shall be forwarded to the PEC as per the procedures and within the deadlines established by PEC.

#### **Article(30)**

Each candidate may appoint a representative among the voters for each Station/ committee established by the PEC, and shall accordingly inform, in writing, the President of the competent Court of First Instance two days before voting day.

The Station shall commence its work at the time established to start the voting, even if any or none of the candidates' representatives are present.

#### **Article (31)**

The electoral domicile is the place of residence shown on the national ID card.

The electoral domicile for chairpersons, secretaries, and employees of the Polling Stations supervising the elections shall be deemed at the location of the same electoral committee where they are assigned. The electoral domicile for chairpersons, members, secretaries and employees of all other electoral committees shall be deemed at any of the polling stations located within their areas of competence.

A separate list shall be made to enlist the names and national ID card numbers of all voters who cast their votes in accordance with the provisions of the previous paragraph.

#### **Article (32)**

Voting shall be made by marking the ballot paper prepared for this purpose. The polling Stations chairperson shall hand each voter an open ballot paper bearing on its back side the PEC's seal and the election date. The voter shall then proceed to one of the voting booths inside the polling station to mark her/his choice. The voter shall then fold the ballot paper and deposit it inside the ballot box. The voter shall then sign or stamp her/his thumb against her/his name on the voters' list, and shall immerse her/his finger into the indelible ink that is not removable before no less than 48 hours.

#### **Article(33)**

A voter that happens to be in a governorate different to the one of her/his place of residence as shown on the voter's national ID card may vote at the competent polling station in that governorate according to the rules and regulations set by PEC

#### **Article (34)**

Without prejudice to the previous provisions, the PEC shall establish all rules and procedures for the conduct of the electoral process, including the counting process and rules of procedures for the work of the Stations /committees established by the PEC.

#### **Article (35)**

The District Committees shall examine all matters related to the voting process, and shall decide on the validity or invalidity of the vote cast by voters.

Candidates may appeal the decisions made by the District Committees exclusively to the PEC. Appeal may be filed within the next day from the issuance of the decisions. The PEC shall decide on the appeals within the following two days having heard the statements of the appellant, or having the appellant failed to appear before the PEC once notified to do so.

The PEC shall establish the rules and procedures for the examination of and decision on appeals.

#### **Article(36)**

Voting for the election of the President of the Republic shall be held even if only one candidate is candied , or if all other candidates withdraw their candidacy. In this case such candidate shall be elected provided that s/he obtains a total number of votes equivalent to 5% (five percent) of the aggregate number of voters entered onto the voters registry database.

If such candidate does not obtain the prescribed percentage of votes, the PEC shall announce the reopening of candidacy for new elections within no more than fifteen days from the announcement of the results. The new elections shall be held in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

#### **Article (37)**

The District Committee shall compile the counting results received from all the Polling Stations to aggregate all votes cast, and to verify the total number of votes obtained by each candidate. The aggregate results shall be recorded onto a minutes that shall be made in three copies and signed by the chairperson and the secretary of the committee.

Upon completion of its work, the committee shall announce the aggregate valid votes obtained by each candidate. All such steps shall be completed in the presence of candidates or their agents, and representatives of civil society organizations and media representatives authorized by the PEC and attending the committee's work. The minutes referred to in the previous paragraph shall be sent to the PEC. The chairperson of the district committee shall hand a copy of the aggregate results, stamped with the committee's seal and signed by its chairperson and secretary, to candidates or their agent or representatives who so request. The PEC shall establish the regulations related to the archiving of such copies and electoral documents.

#### **Article(38)**

The PEC shall hold exclusive competence to announce the final election results, and shall do so within five days from the receipt of all district committees' minutes , and shall publish the results in the Official Gazette.

#### **Article (39)**

The candidate obtaining the absolute majority of valid votes shall be proclaimed as the elected President of the Republic. In the event that no candidate obtains such majority, a second round of elections shall be held within no less than seven days, where only the two candidates obtaining the highest number of votes shall participate. In the event that a third candidate obtains a number of valid votes equal

to the second one, s/he shall participate in the second round of elections. In this case, the candidate obtaining the highest number of valid votes shall be proclaimed as the winner.

**Article(40)**

The PEC shall notify the winning candidate in the Presidential Elections.

**Chapter VI: Penalties**

**Article(41)**

Without prejudice to any other and more severe penalties provided for in any other law, the crimes specified in the following articles shall be subject to the penalties set for therein.

**Article (42)**

A person that is found to have falsely stated in the form provided for in article (11) of this law, in relation to her/his previous endorsement or support to the same candidate or any other candidate, shall be subject to confinement for a period not less than six months and a fine of not less than five thousand pounds and not more than ten thousand pounds, or to one of the two penalties.

**Article(43)**

A fine not exceeding five hundred pounds shall be imposed on any person whose name is entered onto the database of registered voters and fails to vote in the presidential elections without an excuse.

**Article(44)**

Confinement for a period not exceeding five years shall be imposed on whoever uses force or violence against the chairperson or any members of the presidential election stations/committees with the intention to prevent her/him from performing her/his duties, or to force her/him to perform duties in a given way, but fails to fulfill her/his intentions.

If the offender succeeds in fulfilling her/his intention, s/he shall be subject to imprisonment. The penalty shall be aggravated imprisonment if the offender's action included assault or caused injuries that lead to a permanent disability. In the event that the assault or injuries lead to death, the offender shall be subject to life imprisonment.

**Article(45)**

Imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years shall be imposed on any public employee that refrains from performing her/his duties for no apparent reason, provided that such refrain results in the obstruction or disruption of the voting or counting processes.

**Article(46)**

Confinement for a period not exceeding two years shall be imposed on any person that threatens the chairperson or a member of a presidential electoral station /committee with the intention of preventing them from performing their assigned duties. If the threat leads to performing the electoral duties in an inconsistent manner, the penalty shall be that of imprisonment.

**Article(47)**

Confinement for a period not exceeding two years and a fine of not less than two thousand pounds and not exceeding five thousand pounds, or one of these two penalties shall be imposed on any person that offends by way of gesture or words

the chairperson or a member of a presidential electoral station/committee while performing their duties or because of them.

**Article (48)**

Confinement for a period not less than two years shall be imposed on any person that uses any means of intimidation or threat with the intention to influence the proper conduct of the presidential election process, but fails to fulfill her/his intention. In the event that the offender fulfills her/his intention, the penalty shall be imprisonment for a period not less than three years and not more than five years.

**Article(49)**

A fine of not less than ten thousand pounds and not more than five hundred thousand pounds shall be imposed in the following cases:

1. Whoever spends on the electoral campaign any amounts others than those deposited in the bank account referred to in Article (23) of this Law, or spends the deposited amounts in the said bank account for non-electoral campaign purposes.
2. Whoever exceeds the prescribed ceiling amount for expenditure in the electoral campaign.
3. Whoever contravenes the prohibitions provided for in articles (18) and (21) of this law.

**Article(50)**

Imprisonment for a period of not less than three years and a fine of not less than five thousand pounds and not exceeding thirty thousand pounds, shall be imposed on whoever deliberately demolishes or damages any part of the premises, facilities, or means of movement and transportation used or deployed for use in the elections for the President of the Republic, with the intention to obstruct their conduct. Such penalty shall be imposed without prejudice to the offender's responsibility to compensate the value of the damages caused.

**Article(51)**

Confinement for a period of not less than two years shall be imposed on whoever embezzles, conceals or destroys any document related to the election of the President of the Republic, with the intention to change the facts or to force the repetition or disruption of the election.

**Article(52)**

Confinement for a period not less than one year and a fine of not less than one thousand pounds and not exceeding five thousand pounds, or either penalty, shall be imposed on the following:

**First:** Whoever uses force or threat to prevent a voter from casting her/his vote in the presidential election, or compel the voter to vote in a given way.

**Second:** Whoever gives, offers, pledges to give a benefit to another person to induce the other to vote in the presidential election in a given way or to abstain from voting. The same penalty shall be applied to whoever accepts or requests such a benefit for her/himself or for others.

**Article(53)**

Confinement for a period not less than one month and a fine of not less than five hundred pounds and not exceeding one thousand pounds, or either penalty shall be imposed on whoever casts her/his vote in the presidential elections while knowing that s/he is ineligible to vote.

**Article(54)**

Confinement and a fine of not less than two thousand pounds and not exceeding fifty thousand pounds, or either penalty shall be imposed on whoever commits an act with the intention to disrupt or impede the implementation of the decisions of any electoral stations/committees issued pursuant to the provisions of this Law.

**Article(55)**

A fine of not less than twenty thousand pounds and not more than two hundred thousand pounds shall be imposed on whoever violates the provisions regulating the electoral campaign set forth in Article (19) of this Law.

**Article (56)**

A fine of not less than ten thousand pounds and not exceeding two hundred thousand pounds, shall be imposed on whoever violates the provisions of Article (24) of this law, together with the confiscation of the received donations.

**Article(57)**

Attempts to commit the crimes set forth in the preceding articles shall be punishable by penalties applicable to the commission of a complete crime.

**Chapter VII: Final Provisions**

**Article(58)**

Law No. 174 of 2005 on the presidential elections is abolished, as well as any provisions contrary to the provisions of this law.

**Article(59)**

Law enforcement authority shall be vested upon the chairpersons of the presidential election station/ committee, with respect to proving the offences committed within the premises of electoral committees.

**Article(60)**

This law decree shall be published in the Official Gazette, and shall be enforced starting from the day following the date of its publication.

Issued at the Presidency of the Republic, 8 March 2014.