ANNEX 1

to Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 938 dd September 19, 2019

**REGULATION**

**on Observers from Foreign States and International Organizations Participating in Elections of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

This Regulation is developed in accordance with Articles 8 and 33 of the Electoral Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as the generally recognized rules of international law on the organization and conduct of elections, and shall determine the procedure for activities of the observers from foreign states and international organizations in the elections of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

*(Introduction as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1076 of July 2, 2021)*

**I. General Provisions**

1. The activities of observers from foreign states and international organizations (hereinafter referred to as foreign (international) observers) shall be governed by the Electoral Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, resolutions of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as the CEC) and this Regulation, as well as the generally recognized standards and documents of international organizations to which the Republic of Uzbekistan accessed.

2. In accordance with the Electoral Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, foreign (international) observers shall have the right to participate in all activities related to the preparation and conduct of elections.

**II. Procedure for Inviting and Accrediting Foreign (International) Observers**

3. After the announcement of the start of the election campaign, the CEC shall send invitations to the election bodies of foreign countries and international organizations through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall invite foreign (international) observers to the elections on its own initiative or at the suggestion of state authorities, ministries, departments, scientific and research institutes, other organizations and institutions.

Foreign states and international organizations can also apply themselves to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stating willingness to participate in the elections as a foreign (international) observer.

4. Foreign states, international organizations which are invited to participate in the elections as foreign (international) observers, as well as those which stated their willingness to participate, shall submit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs lists of their observers, copies of identity documents, electronic photographs (in jpeg format, at least 100 KB, 600x600px) and the questionnaires in accordance with Annex 1 to this Regulation.

5. Foreign states and international organizations must submit the relevant documents at least ten days before the voting day.

*(Item 5 as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1076 of July 2, 2021)*

6. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall submit a proposal to the CEC with the documents of observers from relevant foreign countries and international organizations attached. The CEC shall adopt a decision on the accreditation of foreign (international) observers within five days.

The list of accredited foreign (international) observers shall be published on the official website of the CEC.

7. Accreditation of foreign (international) observers may be denied in the following cases:

documents which are submitted for accreditation do not meet the requirements of this Regulation;

documents are submitted later than the deadline specified in this Regulation;

activities of a foreign (international) observer or the organization nominating his / her candidate contradict the national legislation or endanger the sovereignty, security and national interests of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

8. The CEC shall issue a mandate to an accredited foreign (international) observer in accordance with the sample set out in Annex 2 to this Regulation.

The mandate shall be the basis for a foreign (international) observer to carry out his / her activities during the preparation and conduct of elections.

**III. Powers of Foreign (International) Observers and Procedure on their Activities**

9. Foreign (international) observers shall have the following rights within their competence:

to be present at meetings of election commissions;

to participate in meetings dedicated to the nomination of candidates, meetings of candidates with voters;

to be present at the polling station, to monitor the progress of preparations, placement of secret voting booths or rooms and sealing of ballot boxes, registration of citizens, issuance of ballot papers to them;

to observe the voting process on election day;

to be informed about the time and place of early voting and to observe this process;

to observe the voting process at the voter's place of residence with his / her permission;

to be present during the counting of votes and drawing up the protocol by the election commission;

to request and receive copies of documents on election results approved by the relevant election commission;

to be accompanied during the observation by an interpreter she/he has hired;

making photographs, videos, audio recordings without violating the secrecy of the election process and voting (except for places of detention and imprisonment, military units, medical institutions);

appeal to the media on the results of monitoring;

to wear badges without the signs of the election campaign, indicating his/her last name, first name and patronymic, the name of the organization he represents;

to be present in the process of receiving protocols on the results of counting of votes from the precinct election commissions by the constituency election commission and in determining the results of elections in the constituency;

to notify at least three days in advance the relevant precinct election commission of his / her visit to the polling stations set up in military units, places of detention and imprisonment in accordance with the established procedure;

*(Paragraph 15 of item 9 as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1076 of July 2, 2021)*

if there are grounds to believe that the polling station violated the requirements of the electoral legislation and international norms, to inform the members of the precinct election commission about his / her observations without interfering in their work, as well as to inform the higher election commissions;

to express his / her opinion on the legislation on elections and on the preparation and conduct of elections.

Foreign (international) observers shall enjoy other rights in accordance with the legislation.

10. Obligations of foreign (international) observers:

to comply with the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including the rules of stay in Uzbekistan, generally recognized norms of international law on the organization and conduct of elections;

to carry out his / her duties on international observation of elections in accordance with the principles of impartiality and political neutrality, to refrain in any way from giving preference to election commissions, state bodies, officials, participants in the election process;

to indicate the mandate issued by the CEC together with an identity document when entering election commissions of all levels, state authorities and governance bodies and other organizations;

substantiate their conclusions with observations and factual material.

11. Foreign (international) observers shall be prohibited:

to be in a secret ballot box or room when a voter puts his mark on the ballot paper;

to influence citizens, distribute any propaganda material or literature;

to ask voters how they voted or to provide any assistance to voters in marking the ballot paper;

to interfere in the activities of the election commission, including the process of sealing ballot boxes, opening them, counting votes;

wearing or carrying official symbols belonging to any party or candidate;

to publish the results of public opinion polls, forecasts of election results, and other research related to the forthcoming elections on election day and the day before the start of voting.

Participation of foreign (international) observers in activities not related to the preparation and conduct of elections shall be carried out with the prior agreement with the CEC.

12. The term of powers of foreign (international) observers shall begin on the day they are given a mandate and end on the day of the official announcement of the election results.

In the event that the CEC decides to hold repeat voting or repeat elections, the mandate of foreign (international) observers shall be extended for an appropriate period.

**IV. Guarantees of Activity of Foreign (International) Observers**

13. During their stay in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, foreign (international) observers shall be under the protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan and their rights and freedoms established by the legislation shall be ensured.

14. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the CEC, constituency election commissions, precinct election commissions shall, within their competence, assist the activities of foreign (international) observers.

15. After registration of a foreign (international) observer on the basis of his / her mandate and identity document, election commissions shall create conditions for him / her to exercise his / her powers fully and without obstacles.

16. Foreign (international) observers shall carry out their activities independently.

**V. Liability for Violation of Electoral Legislation and Rights of Foreign (International) Observers**

17. Foreign (international) observers shall not have the right to carry out activities that go beyond the scope of their powers established by this Regulation, as well as to use their status in activities not related to the preparation, conduct and observation of the election campaign.

18. If a foreign (international) observer violates the requirements of the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, universally recognized rules and norms of international law, the CEC may terminate the powers of a foreign (international) observer ahead of schedule.

19. Persons who violated the rights of foreign (international) observers shall be liable in accordance with the established procedure.

**VI. Final Provision**

20. This Regulation is agreed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

ANNEX 1

to the Regulation on observers from foreign states and international organizations participating in the elections of the Republic of Uzbekistan

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**for accreditation as a foreign (international) observer**

**APPLICATION FORM**

**for registration as a foreign (international) observer**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Фамилияси**  Family name  **Исми**  First name  **Отасининг исми**  Patronymic |  |  |
|  | **Туғилган санаси (кун, ой, йил)**  Date of birth (day, month, year)  **Туғилган жойи**  Place of birth |  |  |
|  | **Фуқаролиги**  Present nationality |  |  |
|  | **Шахсини тасдиқловчи ҳужжат**  Identification document  **Рақами**  Number  **Берилган вакти**  Date of issue  **Қачонгача ҳақиқий (кун, ой, йил)**  Date of expiry (day, month, year) |  |  |
|  | **Қайси тилларда сўзлашади**  Knowledge of languages |  |  |
|  | **Иш жойи (тўлиқ номланиши, манзили, телефон, факс)**  Place of work (full name, address, phone, fax of the organization) |  |  |
|  | **Лавозими**  Position/Designation |  |  |
|  | **Сизни хорижий (халкаро) кузатувчи сифатида тавсия этган мамлакат (ташкилот) номи**  Name of organization/state You represent as foreign (international) observer  **Телефон (факс)**  Phone (fax) |  |  |
|  | **Уй манзили**  Present home address  **Телефон**  Phone  **Факс**  Fax  E-mail |  |  |
|  | **Хорижий (халқаро) кузатувчилик тажрибаси, шу жумладан Ўзбекистонда (мамлакат, йил, қайси миссия таркибида)**  Experience from election observation, including in Uzbekistan (country, year, mission) |  |  |
|  | **Ўзбекистон Республикасига келиш санаси**  Date of arrival to the Republic of Uzbekistan |  |  |
|  | **Ўзбекистон Республикасидан кетиш санаси**  Date of departure from the Republic of Uzbekistan |  |  |
|  | **Сана**  Date | **Имзо**  Signature |  |

*(Text of Annex 1 as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1076 of July 2, 2021)*

ANNEX 2

to the Regulation on observers from foreign states and international organizations participating in the elections of the Republic of Uzbekistan

**SAMPLE AND DESCRIPTION OF A FOREIGN (INTERNATIONAL) OBSERVER’s MANDATE**

**Central Election Commission**

**of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

**Name of elections and date**

FOREIGN (INTERNATIONAL) OBSERVER

MANDATE № \_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(*surname*)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(*name*)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(state/international organization)*

**Chair of the Central Election**

**Commission**  *seal* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(signature)*

This mandate is valid upon presentation of an identity document

and is valid until the day the election results are officially announced.

The mandate of a foreign (international) observer is a document confirming his status.

The mandate is issued on the two-sided sample of a standard form of size 140x100 mm. (in Uzbek and Russian or in Uzbek and English).

The state symbols of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the logo of the Central Election Commission, as well as various decorations and colors may be used in the preparation of the mandate.

The mandate shall indicate its serial number, surname, name of the foreign (international) observer, the name of the sending country (for observers of foreign countries) and (or) the organization (for observers of international organizations) and shall be signed by the Chairman of the Central Election Commission and certified by the round seal of the commission.

*(Text of Annex 2 as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1076 of July 2, 2021)*