LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
"ON ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN"

(Bulletin of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 1992, No. 1, Art. 34;
Bulletin of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 1998, No. 3, Art. 38; 1999, No 9, Art. 206; 2000, No 5-6, Art.153;
Compilation of the Legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2004, No.51, Art. 514)

Chapter I. General provisions

Article 1. Elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be undertaken by the citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret voting.

A citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan, who has reached the age of thirty five, has an excellent command of the state language and resided permanently in the territory of Uzbekistan no less than ten years directly prior to the elections, can be elected as the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be elected for a term of five years.

(the third part of the article 1 was amended by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 12, 2011, № LRUZ-306- The bulletin of the chambers of the Oliy Majlis, 2011, № 12/1, art.344)

Article 2. Electoral rights of citizens

The citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the age of 18 shall have the right to participate in the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Any direct or indirect abridgement of the suffrage rights of the citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the grounds of origin, social and property status, race and nationality, sex, education, language, attitude to the religion, type and nature of occupation shall be prohibited.

Citizens, who have been declared incapable by court, as well as persons in prisons according to a court sentence, shall not participate in the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 3. Principles for holding of elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall participate in the pre-election campaign and voting on the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan voluntarily.

Voting in the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be secret and be conducted by citizens directly. No control over the will of citizens shall be permissible.

Every citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have one vote.

Article 4. Holding elections by electoral commissions

The holding of the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be provided by the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan, district and precinct electoral commissions.

The Central Electoral Commission shall be formed in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan".

The members of the district electoral commissions shall be approved by the Central Electoral Commission upon the recommendation of the Jokargi Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regional and Tashkent city Councils (Kengashes) of the people's deputies.

The members of the precinct electoral commissions shall be approved by the relevant district electoral commissions upon the recommendation of the district, city Councils of People's Deputies.

Article 5. Transparency in preparation and holding of the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The preparation and holding of the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be undertaken by electoral commissions in an open and transparent manner.

The electoral commissions shall inform citizens of their work, of the establishment of electoral districts, precincts, of members of electoral commission, of their location and business hours, disclose voter list, the list of the political parties running in the election, provide information about the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the results of voting and elections.

The mass media of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall broadcast the course of preparation and holding of the elections.

One representative of political parties that nominated their candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, representatives of the press, TV and radio, observers from foreign countries, international organizations and movements shall have the right to take part in all events dealt with the preparation and holding of elections, and in the voting premises on the day of election and counting of votes at each electoral precinct. Their authority must be proven by relevant documents.

(the fifth part of the article 5 was amended by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2008, № 194- The collection of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008, № 52, art. 510)

Interested organizations shall inform the district electoral commissions of their observers no less than fifteen days prior to election.

The District electoral commissions, within five days after receipt of the application of interested organizations, shall issue accreditations to the observers, template whereof shall be approved by the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Accreditations for observers from other states, international organizations and movements are issued by the Central Election Commission

Observers shall have the right to:

Be present in the meetings to nominate candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, meetings of district and precinct electoral commissions;

Be present at the polling station to observe the course of preparatory work, installing and sealing of ballot boxes and distribution of ballots to the citizens;

Be present at counting of votes and writing of protocol of the precinct electoral commission;

Request and receive copies of documents on the outcome of elections approved by the respective electoral commission;

Inform superior electoral commission of his observations, provided there are grounds to consider that violations of the present Law occurred at the election premises.

Observers shall not:

Be in the voting booth, when a voter is marking the ballot;

Influence voters; distribute campaigning materials or literature;

Ask voters who they voted for, or provide assistance to voters in marking the ballot;

Interfere in the activity of precinct electoral commissions, including sealing and opening of ballot boxes and counting of votes.

Article 6. Financing of elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Expenditures related to the preparation and holding of elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be covered by the state funds of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Providing financing and other material support to the candidates for the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan by other means shall be prohibited.

Political parties, public associations, enterprises, institutions, organizations, and citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan may voluntarily donate their funds for holding elections. These

funds shall be accepted by the Central Electoral Commission for use in the course of election campaign .

Article 7. Liability for violation of the legislation on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Persons, violating the rules and procedure set forth in the present Law for holding elections, exercising violence, deception, threats or other means to hinder the free implementation of the rights of the citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan to elect and be elected to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and undertake pre-election campaigning as well as the members of electoral commissions, officials of state and public bodies, who committed forgery of electoral documents, deliberately miscounted votes, violating the voting secrecy or committed other violations of this Law, shall be responsible in conformity with the law. Persons who published or in other ways distributed false information that defames the honour and dignity of the candidate, tolerated an abusive attitude to the members of the electoral commissions shall also be liable.

The publication (to disclose for public access) of the outcomes of public opinion surveys, forecasts of election results, other researches related to the elections to be held, including their dissemination via information and telecommunication networks of general usage (including Internet) shall be prohibited during five days prior to the voting date as well as on the day of voting.

Chapter II. Announcement of the commencement of election campaign and establishment of electoral commissions

Article 8. Announcement of the commencement of election campaign

The beginning of election campaign on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be announced by the Central Electoral Commission in the mass media no later than three months prior expiration of the term of the incumbent President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 9. Establishment of electoral districts

Electoral districts on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission within boundaries of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regions and Tashkent city.

The lists of electoral districts with indication of number of voters and location of the district electoral commissions shall be published by the Central Electoral Commission no less than seventy five days prior to elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 10. Establishment of polling precincts

Polling precincts shall be established considering the borders of districts, cities, urban districts with the purpose of creating the maximum convenience for votes. Polling precincts shall also be established in military units and included in electoral districts by the location of military units.

Polling precincts may be established at the Missions of the Republic of Uzbekistan in foreign countries, in the spa and health resorts, hospitals, and other boarding treatment facilities, and residence areas located in remote and hard-to-reach areas, in places of detention. These polling precincts shall be included in the electoral districts of their location. The issue of inclusion of polling precincts, established outside the Republic of Uzbekistan, in electoral districts shall be determined by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 11. Procedure and criterion for the establishment of polling precincts

Polling precincts shall be established by the district electoral commissions upon the proposal of district and city khokimiyats (*local administration*). Polling precincts in military units shall be formed by the district electoral commissions in accordance with the proposal of the commander of the military units or military formations. Polling precincts at the Missions of the Republic of Uzbekistan in foreign countries shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission upon the proposal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Polling precincts shall be established no less than sixty days prior to elections. Polling precincts in military units and Missions of the Republic of Uzbekistan in foreign countries, as well as in remote and hard-to-reach areas, in places of detention shall be formed in the same period, and in exceptional cases – no later than five days prior to elections.

Polling precincts shall generally include no less than 20 voters and no more than 3000 voters.

The premises for organization of voting for each polling precinct shall be allocated by the khokimiyat of district and city.

District electoral commissions shall ensure informing the voters of the borders of each polling precinct indicating the location of the precinct electoral commission and voting premises.

Article 12. Electoral commissions on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be organized and held by the following electoral commissions:

1) Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

2) District electoral commissions on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

3) Precinct electoral commissions on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 13. Establishment of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The procedure for the establishment of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be determined by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan".

Article 14. Powers of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan

A meeting of the Central Electoral Commission shall be considered valid provided no less than two-thirds of actual members of the commission are present on the day of meeting.

The Central Electoral Commission shall:

1) exercise the control over implementation of the present Law and its uniform application across the entire territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, enact instructions within limits of its authority and provide explanations on the issues of organization of elections;

2) directs the activity of electoral commissions; repeal the decisions of the district electoral commissions on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in cases, if these decisions contradict the present Law; determine the procedure for introducing changes in membership of electoral commissions;

3) Establish electoral districts, assign thereof with names and numbers;

4) Resolve the issues on inclusion of the polling precincts, established outside the Republic of Uzbekistan, into the electoral district;

4^1) Accept respective documents from political parties, initiative groups of voters nominating candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

(the paragraph 4^1 of the second part of the article 14 was amended by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2008, № 194- The collection of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008, № 52, art. 510)

5) Ensure equal conditions to the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to participate in election campaign;

6) Determine the order for the participation of the mass media in an election campaign and their use in conformity with the present Law;

7) Allocate money funds for electoral commissions; control the provision of electoral commissions with premises, transport and communication means and address other issues on material and technical maintenance of elections;

8) Approve forms of voting bulletins and lists on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, voter lists, protocols of electoral commissions, other electoral documents, samples of ballot boxes and seal of electoral commissions, and procedure for storage of electoral documents;

9) Hear reports of the representative of state agencies, political parties, initiative groups of voters and other public associations on the issues related to the preparation and holding of elections;

(the 9th part of the article 14 was amended by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2008, № 194- The collection of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008, № 52, art. 510)

10) Register the candidates for the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, summarize the election outcomes in the entire Republic, and publish press reports on election results;

10^1) Hands over to the elected person the certificate about being elected as the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, sample thereof shall be established by the legislation;

11) Consider applications and complaints on decisions and actions of electoral commissions and make final decisions on them;

12) Deliver the materials on violations, which lead to criminal liability, of the Law on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the organs of Prosecutor's Office;

13) Perform other powers in accordance with the present Law and other laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 15. Establishment of district electoral commissions on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The District electoral commissions shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission no later than seventy days prior to elections, and shall consist of the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, and no less than 6-8 members of commission. The personal composition of the district electoral commissions shall be approved by the resolution of the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 16. Powers of the district electoral commissions on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

District electoral commission shall:

1) Oversee implementation of this Law in the entire territory of the electoral district and ensure its uniform application;

2) Establish polling precincts, assign them numbers on the electoral district, publish their lists with addresses, and coordinate the activity of precinct electoral commissions;

3) Ensure equal conditions to the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to participate in election campaign;

4) Hear reports of representatives of the political parties, initiative groups of voters, chiefs of enterprises, institutions and organizations located in the district territory, on issues related to the preparation and holding of elections;

(the 4th paragraph of the article 16 was amended by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2008, № 194- The collection of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008, № 52, art. 510)

5) Oversee the compilation of voter lists and disclosure thereof to the public;

6) Allocate money funds for precinct electoral commissions, control the provision of electoral commissions with premises, transport and communication means and consider other issues on material and technical maintenance of elections;

7) Tabulate the election results in the electoral district and submit the data to the Central Electoral Commission;

8) Consider applications and complaints regarding decisions and actions of the precinct electoral commissions and make decisions respectively;

9) Exercise other powers in accordance with the present Law.

Article 17. Establishment of precinct electoral commissions

The Precinct electoral commissions shall be established by the district electoral commissions no later than forty days prior to elections and consist of 5 to 19 members, including the chairman, deputy chairman, and secretary. Should a commission have up to seven members, the chairman and secretary shall be elected. The personal composition of the precinct electoral commission shall be approved by a decision of the district electoral commission.

In case of necessity, the number of precinct electoral commissions may be increased or decreased.

Heads of Missions of the Republic of Uzbekistan in foreign countries shall perform the duties of the chairpersons of precinct electoral commission at the respective Missions.

Article 18. Powers of the precinct electoral commission

Precinct electoral commission shall:

1) Compile a list of precinct voters;

2) Disclose the voter lists to the voters; accept and review applications about inaccuracies in the lists and decide on introducing appropriate changes;

3) Accept electoral envelopes from the voters who are unable to be at their place of residence on the elections day and participate in the elections;

4) Inform population about the day of elections and location of voting;

5) Ensure preparation of voting premises and ballot boxes;

6) Organize voting at the polling precinct on the elections day;

7) Count votes cast in the polling precinct;

8) Consider applications and complaints on issues of preparation for elections and organization of voting, and make decisions, respectively;

9) Exercise other powers in accordance with the present Law.

Article 18[1]. Membership in district and precinct electoral commissions

Candidates for the membership of district electoral commission shall be discussed at the meetings of the Jokargi Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regional and Tashkent city Councils of People's Deputies and shall be recommended for approval of the Central Election Commission. Candidates for the membership of precinct electoral commissions shall be discussed at the meetings of the district, city Councils of People's Deputies and shall be recommended for approval of respective district electoral commission. Members of district and precinct electoral commissions shall be appointed among reputed members of community.

Article 19. Organization of the work of electoral commissions

Meetings of electoral commissions shall be considered valid provided no less than two-thirds of members of the commission are taking part therein. The decisions of commission shall be made by open vote of the majority of members who are present. Members of the commission, who disagree with decision, shall have the right to express separate opinion, which shall be attached to the protocol in writing.

Decisions of electoral commissions made within the limits of its authority shall be mandatory for implementation by all government and public organs, enterprises, institutions, and organizations.

The decisions and actions of an electoral commission may be appealed to a superior electoral commission, and also to the court in cases set forth in the present Law.

A member of an electoral commission, upon the decision of the commission, may be relieved of their professional or official duties for the period of preparation and holding of elections, while their average salary shall be compensated by the funds allocated for elections.

A member of an electoral commission may be relieved of his responsibilities by his own will, or by dismissal.

A right to dismiss a member of the electoral commission shall be delegated to the body that established commission in case of violations of the requirements of the present Law or systematic failure to fulfill one's duties.

In case of necessity, a new member of the electoral commission shall be appointed in the order established in the present Law.

The Chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and members of electoral commissions may not be members of political parties. Candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and their authorized representatives may not be members of electoral commissions.

Same person may be a member of only one electoral commission.

District and precinct electoral commissions shall cease their activity after summing up the results of the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 20. Assistance to the electoral commission in exercising their powers

Government agencies and public entities, bodies of political parties, enterprises, institutions, organizations, and officials shall be obliged to assist electoral commissions in exercising their powers and provide the information and materials required for their work.

Electoral commission shall have the right to address the issues related to the preparation and holding of elections to the government agencies and public entities, bodies of political parties, enterprises, institutions, organizations and officials that shall be obliged to consider and reply to the electoral commission on these issues no later than three days.

Article 21. Procedure for including citizens in the voter lists

All citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan who have attained the age of 18 before or on the day of elections and permanently or temporarily reside in the territory of this precinct shall be included in the voter lists.

A voter cannot be included in the voter lists at other polling precincts.

Article 22. Voter Lists and procedure for compilation thereof

Voter list shall be drawn in every polling precinct by precinct electoral commission and shall be signed by its chairman and secretary. Precinct electoral commission may involve representatives of community to participate in the work to compile the voter list.

Khokimiyats (Administrations) of districts and towns shall ensure registration of voters and convey voter data of the respective area required for compilation of voter list to the precinct electoral commissions.

List of military servicemen-voters stationed in military units as well as family members of military servicemen and other voters, in case they reside in the area of military regiment, shall be drawn on the basis of data provided by the commanders of regiments. The military servicemen residing outside of military units shall be included in the regular voter list according to the place of residence on general grounds.

Voter lists of the polling precincts formed at the Missions of the Republic of Uzbekistan in foreign countries, at the spa and resorts, hospitals and boarding medical facilities shall be drawn on the basis of data provided by the chiefs of the abovementioned institutions.

Family names of voters shall be indicated in the voter list in the order that is convenient for organization of voting.

Article 23. Disclosure of voter list to the citizens and right to appeal against inaccuracies in voter list

Voter list shall be made available for public access fifteen days prior to elections, while two days prior to elections at the polling stations established at the Missions of the Republic of Uzbekistan in foreign countries, spa and resorts, hospitals and other boarding medical facilities, remote and hard-to-reach areas, in places of detention. Precinct electoral commission shall inform voters about the location and time for getting familiarized with the voter list.

Citizens shall be provided with opportunity to familiarize with the voter list and check the accuracy of its compilation in the premises of precinct electoral commissions.

Every citizen shall have the right to appeal non-inclusion, incorrect inclusion in the voter list or exclusion from the voter list as well as inaccuracies occurred in the voter list in relation to the indication of data on a voter. Applications on this issue shall be reviewed by the precinct electoral commission that shall be obliged to consider the application no later than within twenty-four hours ~~within two days~~, and in case of the day before and on the day of elections – immediately; and to introduce necessary corrections to the voter list or provide applicant with a copy of motivated decision on denial of his request. The decision of the commission may be appealed to the district (city) court no later than three days prior to elections that obliged to review the complaint within two days. The decision of the district (city) court shall be final. The correction in the voter list shall be made immediately by the precinct electoral commission in accordance with the court decision.

CHAPTER III. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN, REGISTRATION THEREOF AND ELECTION BALLOTS

Article 24. Right to nominate candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Political parties shall have the right to nominate candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

(the second part of the article 24 was excluded by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2008, № 194- The collection of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008, № 52, art. 510)

A political party may nominate a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan provided it is registered by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan no later than six months prior to announcement about beginning of electoral campaign.

(the third part of the article 24 was excluded by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2008, № 194- The collection of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008, № 52, art. 510)

Article 24^1. Documents to be submitted by the political parties and initiative groups of voters for participation in the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

In order to participate in the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, a political party shall submit the following documents to the Central Electoral Commission no later than seventy days prior to elections: application for participation in elections, signed by the chair of the party; reference letter of the Ministry of Justice containing data on registration of political party; information on future candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Upon submission of the documents listed in the first and second parts of this Article, the Central Electoral Commission shall issue a dated reference to the representative of the political party. On the basis of the documents submitted, the Central Electoral Commission shall make final decision within five days to allow party, to participate in elections and shall issue certificate of registration to the authorized representative of the political party along with approved forms of signature lists. List of parties, participating in the elections shall be published in the central press in the order of submission of applications.

(the article 24^1 was amended by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2008, № 194- The collection of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008, № 52, art. 510)

Article 24[2]. Procedure for nomination of the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Nomination of the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall start sixty five days prior to elections and end forty five days prior to elections.

Nomination of the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be performed by higher bodies of the political parties.

Higher body of the political party shall be authorized to nominate one candidate for the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

A political party shall be authorized to nominate a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan only among its members or a non-party individual. A protocol shall be drawn on the nomination of a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Head of the political party shall address the application to the Central Electoral Commission with a request to register the candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The application shall be attached the following documents:

Decision of the higher body of the political party, about nomination of the candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

Protocol of the meeting of the higher body of the political party, about nomination of the candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan that includes family name, first name, patronymic of the candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, date of birth, profession, position (occupation), work and residence address and party affiliation;

Application of the candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan with consent to be elected;

Signature lists in support of nominated candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The signature lists submitted by the political parties should contain signatures of no less than ~~five~~ one percentage of total number of all voters of the Republic of Uzbekistan, representing no less than 8 administrative-territorial units. Political party may collect no more than eight percent of signatures from their total number in a single administrative-territorial unit (Republic of Karakalpakstan, region, Tashkent city). A political party shall have the right to collect the signatures of voters in support of a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan only after the certificate of registration has been received by their authorized representative. The signatures collected before this date shall not be taken into account.

Voters shall have the right to sign for support of only one candidate. In this case voter shall indicate his family name, first name, patronymic, year of birth, (at the age of 18 – date and month of birth shall be indicated additionally), residence address, series and number of the passport and the date of signature insertion.

Signature list shall be certified by the person who has collected signatures with indication of his family name, first name, patronymic, residence address, series and number of passport and also by the chief of district, city structure of the respective political party, authorized representative of the initiative group of voters.

Collection of voter signatures shall be conducted in the places of work, service, study, residence, pre-election events, and other venues, where campaigning and collection of signatures are not prohibited by the legislative acts. Any forms of coercion and bribing of voters by persons engaged in collection of signatures shall be prosecuted in accordance with law.

After the collection of signatures has been finalized, an authorized representative of the political party shall convey the signature lists that bound separately by Republic of Karakalpakstan, each region and Tashkent city, to the Central Electoral Commission.

The Central Electoral Commission shall issue a reference with date and time on receipt of the documents to the person who submitted the documents.

The Central Electoral Commission shall verify and issue a conclusion on conformity of the submitted documents with the provisions of this Law within seven day period.

In case of forgery of signatures on the signature lists, the Central Electoral Commission shall deny to the political party the receipt of the documents for registration of the nominated candidate.

The Central Electoral Commission shall inform, in due order, the chiefs of the respective political parties about identified discrepancies and deviations of the documents, submitted for registration, with the provisions of the present Law.

The Central Electoral Commission shall stop the acceptance of documents for the registration of the candidates for the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan seven days prior to expiration of registration period.

(the article24 [2] was amended by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2008, № 194- The collection of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008, № 52, art. 510)

Article 25. Registration of candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be registered by the Central Electoral Commission on the basis of documents, list of which is provided in Article 24^2 of this Law.

The registration card shall be issued to the person who has been registered as a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in accordance with the present Law.

The registration of the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall end thirty five days prior to elections.

The Central Electoral Commission, within five days after registration of the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, shall publish a notice on registration indicating family name, first name, patronymic, year of birth, party affiliation, occupation, place of work and residence, as well as the political party that nominated the candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The following persons shall not be registered as candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

Citizens who were previously convicted for the intentional crimes;

Citizens prosecuted by the law in relation to the initiation of the criminal cases against them;

Professional staff of the religious organizations and associations.

Article 26. Deprivation of the status of the candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Withdrawal of the candidacy by the candidate for the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

A political party shall have the right to repeal its decision, no later than seven days prior to elections, on nomination of a particular person as a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, who may be deprived of candidacy status by the Central Electoral Commission. A political party, until expiration of the term for nominating candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, may request the Central Electoral Commission to register a new candidate.

(the first part of the article 26 was amended by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2008, № 194- The collection of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008, № 52, art. 510)

A registered candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan may be deprived of his status by the Central Electoral Commission, should the political party that nominated the candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan cease its work.

A candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan may withdraw his/her candidacy no later than seven days prior to the elections. He/she shall apply to the Central Electoral Commission for this purpose.

Article 27. Ballot

The form and text of the ballot on elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be approved by the Central Electoral Commission.

Family names, first name, patronymic, year of birth, position (occupation) and place of work of the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be indicated in the ballot in alphabetical order.

The ballot should include instructions on the procedure for its completion.

Ballots shall be printed on the state language upon the instruction of the Central Electoral Commission no later than twenty days prior to the election. The ballots can also be printed in the languages used by the majority of population of the electoral district upon the decision of the district electoral commission.

Precinct electoral commissions shall receive the ballots from the district electoral commissions no later than three days prior to elections. The quantity of issued and received ballots shall be confirmed by the signature of the chairman or deputy chairman, or secretary of the relevant district and precinct electoral commissions.

The number of ballots received by the precinct electoral commission may not exceed by more than a half percent the number of the voters included in the voter list on the polling precinct. Two members of the precinct electoral commission shall sign on the upper right top corner of the ballot, which shall be certified by the stamp of the precinct electoral commission. The ballots that have not been certified by the commission shall not be taken into account in the counting of votes.

CHAPTER IV. PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN. GUARANTEES OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CANDIDATES FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN. AUTHORISED PERSONS OF THE CANDIDATES FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Article 28. Pre-election campaign

The election campaign is the activities carried out during the election campaign and aimed at encouraging voters to vote for a candidate of President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The election campaign begins from the date of registration of candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan by the Central Election Commission. Campaigning on election day and a day prior to the voting is not allowed.

It is forbidden to conduct election campaign by granting to voters goods and services (except for informational) free of charge or under preferential terms the, as well as money payments.

Article 28[1]. Types, forms and methods of election campaigning

The election campaign is conducted in the form of:

-disseminating information about the program and (or) election platform of a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan with calls to vote for the candidate;

-disseminating information about a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan with calls to vote for him;

The election campaign can be conducted in the form of public debates, discussions, press conferences, interviews, speeches, meetings of voters, placing videos about a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The election campaign is carried out through:

- mass media, including television, publicly available information and telecommunication networks (including the Internet - global informational network);

-issuing and distribution of printed, visual, audiovisual and other campaign materials (posters, leaflets and other materials);

- meetings with voters.

Candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, political parties may use other types, forms and methods of election campaigning unless such types, forms and methods unless prohibited by law.

Article 28[2]. Carrying out election campaign through the media

During the election campaign, the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan are provided with equal access to public media free of charge, with equal amount of airtime and print space.

Candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan can also use state media airtime or print space on a fee basis.

In the non-state media, airtime or print space can be allocated to candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in accordance with the law.

The terms of payment for airtime and print space for participants in the election campaign and other requirements must be equal and the same for all candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The information disseminated by the media, must be true, should not violate the rights and legitimate interests of the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, political parties. It is forbidden to spread false information, as well as information discrediting the honor and dignity of candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The order, volume and time of use of the media for the purpose of election campaigning is defined by the Central Election Commission in consultation with the political parties.

Article 28[3]. Carrying out the election campaigning through the issuance and distribution of printed, visual, audiovisual and other campaign materials

Candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have equal conditions for unhindered production and distribution of printed, visual, audio-visual materials, soundtracks, electronic versions of printed materials, and other promotional materials. Campaign materials must be produced on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Printed, visual, audiovisual and other campaign materials should contain:

name, location (postal address) and other information about the legal entity (last name, first name and middle name of a natural person) of the producer of campaign materials;

name of a legal entity (last name, first name and middle name of a natural person) who ordered the campaign materials;

the published amount, the date of release of campaign materials.

Election campaigning materials previously placed on buildings and other places will be removed by the public authorities on the day before the election.

Article 28[4]. Carrying out the election campaigning through meetings with voters

Candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have equal conditions for election campaigning through holding meetings with voters.

Meetings with voters are to be held independently by candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Place and time of event as a rule, will be agreed with the precinct election commissions, which in advance shall inform the voters.

The state institutions and the economic sector, local government bodies, public associations, as well as self-government bodies are obliged to provide the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan with equipped facilities for meetings with voters, and to assist in obtaining the necessary reference and information materials free of charge.

Candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan or their authorized representatives shall have the right, together with the other candidates for president of the Republic of

Uzbekistan, or their authorized representatives hold meetings with voters or to take part in meetings with voters organized by other presidential candidates of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 28[5]. Guarantees of the rights of the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

All registered candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have equal rights.

The candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to be relieved from the performance of their work or service duties during meetings with voters, speeches at pre-electoral meetings, on television and radio, retaining his/her average salary reimbursed by the funds allocated for holding elections.

The candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan after registration shall have the right for free pass in all types of state passenger transportation (except city passenger transportation, taxi and charter trips of other types of transportation) within the borders of the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan may not be brought to criminal liability, arrested or subject to measures of administrative penalty imposed in the judicial order, without the consent of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In case such consent has been provided, the Prosecutor General shall immediately inform the Central Electoral Commission about it.

The forcible bringing to court as well as inspection of the personal belongings, luggage, transport, residence and official premises of the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall not be allowed.

Article 29. Authorized persons of the candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

A candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to have up to 15 authorized persons who assist him/her in conducting the electoral process, conduct campaigning in favor of his election as President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and represent his interests in relationships with government agencies and public associations, electoral commissions. The Central Electoral Commission shall register authorized representatives upon proposal by a candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and issue them appropriate identity cards.

CHAPTER V. PROCEDURE FOR VOTING AND DETERMINATION OF THE ELECTION RESULTS

Article 30. Time and place of voting

Voting shall be conducted from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the day of elections. Precinct electoral commission shall inform voters about the time and place of voting no later than ten days prior to the election.

In the polling stations established at the Missions of the Republic of Uzbekistan in foreign countries, at the military units, resorts and treatment centers, hospitals and boarding medical centers as well as in the remote and hard-to-reach areas, in places of detention the precinct electoral commissions may declare voting closed at any time in case all voters included in the voter list have voted.

Article 31. Voting Procedure ~~Organization of voting~~

Voting shall be conducted in designated premises equipped with the sufficient number of booths or rooms for secret vote, with distribution point of the ballots, and installed ballot boxes. Ballot boxes shall be installed so that the voters shall first pass by the booths or rooms for secret voting before approaching them.

Precinct electoral commissions shall be responsible for the organization of voting, ensuring the secrecy of voters' will, equipping the premises and maintaining due order therein.

The ballot boxes shall be checked, sealed or stamped by the chair of the precinct electoral commission in the presence of all members of the commission before starting of the voting on the day of election.

Every voter shall vote personally; voting on behalf of other persons shall not be permitted. Ballots shall be given by the respective electoral commission on the basis of the voter list of the polling precinct upon presentation of the passport or other document of personal identity. Every voter shall sign opposite his/her family name in the voter list confirming the receipt of the ballot.

A voter who is unable to be on election day at their place of residence, has the right to early voting.

Early voting begins ten days prior to election day and ends on the day prior to election day. The timing of early voting is determined by the precinct election commission and shall be brought to the attention of voters, observers, representatives of mass media.

In order to vote earlier, a voter should provide a reasonable excuse for his or her absence on election day (vacation, business trip, trip abroad, etc.) in written form and after that the voter will receive a ballot at the precinct election commission of his or her residence. In the presence of at least two PEC members, the voter should sign the voters list evidencing that he or she received a ballot. The ballot is marked by the voter in a specially equipped booth or room for secret voting.

The voter makes a choice and inserts the marked ballot in a sealed envelope in the precinct election commission. Two members of the precinct election commission sign the glued part of the envelope, stamp it with a seal of the commission and the voter signs a confirmation.

The form and procedure for production of the ballots, as well as delivery time of ballots to the polling stations will be established by the Central Election Commission.

In cases where individual voters due to health or other reasons cannot arrive at the polling station, the precinct election commission, upon request, instructs the commission members to organize voting in the place of stay of these voters.

Voters, not included in the voter list for any reasons, shall be included to the addendum to the voter list based on the document proving the identity and place of residence.

Article 32. Voting procedure

The ballot shall be marked by the voters in the booth or room for secret voting. Presence of persons other than the voter at the time of marking the ballots shall be prohibited. A voter unable to mark the ballot himself may invite at his discretion another person to the booth or room, except the members of the electoral commission, observers and authorized persons of the candidates.

The voter shall mark in the empty square on the right side of the ballot against the family name of the candidate for whom s/he is voting.

The voter shall cast the marked ballot in the ballot box.

Article 33. Counting votes at the polling station

Counting of the votes at the polling station shall be performed by the precinct electoral commission for each candidate separately.

At the end of voting and prior to opening ballot boxes, in the presence of all members of the precinct commission, sealed envelopes with the voter list shall be dropped in the boxes.

The ballot boxes shall be opened by the precinct electoral commission in the presence of all members thereof after the announcement of the end of voting by the chair of the commission. Opening of the ballot boxes before the end of voting shall be prohibited. All unused ballots shall

be counted and invalidated by the precinct electoral commission before opening of the ballot boxes.

The Precinct electoral commission shall determine the total numbers of voters in the precinct and the number of voters who have received a ballot according to the main voter list and addendum hereto. Based on ballots and voter lists in the ballot boxes, the commission shall define: the total number of voters who participated in the voting; the number of votes entered for each candidate; the number of ballots and voter lists that were deemed as invalid. Votes cast for names added by voters themselves to the ballots and to the voter lists shall not be counted.

Ballots and voter lists in unapproved format as well as ballots and voter lists where the mark was entered in more than one square or was absent in any of them shall be deemed as invalid. In case of dispute over the authenticity of ballot or voter list, this issue shall be resolved by the precinct electoral commission by means of voting.

The results of the vote count shall be reviewed in the meeting of the precinct electoral commission and recorded in the protocol.

The protocol shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary and the members of the commission and submitted to the respective district electoral commission in the order established by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 34. Determination of the election results in the district

Based on the protocols of the precinct electoral commissions, the district electoral commission shall define: the total number of voters in the district, the number of voters who received ballots and voter lists; the number of voters who participated in the voting; the number of votes entered for each candidate; the number of ballots and voter lists that were deemed as invalid.

Election results in the district shall be determined in the meeting of the electoral commission and recorded in the protocol. The protocol shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary and the members of the commission and submitted to the Central Electoral Commission in due order.

Article 35. Determination of the results on the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The Central Election Commission based on the protocols delivered by the precinct election commissions shall determine the total number of voters in the republic; the number of voters who received ballots and lists; the number of voters who participated in voting; the number of votes cast for each candidate; the number of invalid ballots.

In case of two candidates running in the election of President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the candidate who received the relatively majority of votes of the voters that participated in the voting, shall be considered as elected.

In case of more than two candidates running in the election of President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and if none of them receives more than half of the votes of the voters who participated in the voting, repeated voting shall be conducted with participation of the two candidates who have received the highest numbers of votes.

In case of one candidate only running in the election of President of the Republic of Uzbekistan due to various reasons (death of a candidate, health condition of a candidate that exclude the participation in the election, or withdrawal of a candidate for other reasons established in the Law etc.), the candidate who has received more than half of the votes of the voters participating in the voting shall be considered as elected.

Elections shall be considered invalid, if less than 33 (thirty three) percent of the voters included in the voter lists participated.

Article 36. About determination of the results on the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Elections in total or in some districts or in individual precincts may be invalidated due to violations committed in the course of voting or vote counting that affected the outcome of the election. The decision to declare an election invalid shall be made by the Central Electoral Commission and may be appealed to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan within ten days after publication of the election results. The right to appeal the decision on recognizing elections as invalid is vested in the candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Should elections in individual districts or precincts be invalidated according to the decision of the Central Electoral Commission, the voting results on such district shall be excluded from the overall election results, provided that elections without these results may be deemed conducted.

Information on the results of the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be published in the press by the Central Electoral Commission no later than ten days after the election.

Article 37. Second round

The Central Electoral Commission shall appoint the date for a second round within one month after holding elections, but not earlier than fifteen days after the election. The announcement on holding a second round shall be published in press.

The candidate, who has received most votes of the voters that participated in the voting, in the course of the second round, compared to another candidate, shall be deemed as elected.

The voter turnout requirement shall not be applicable in the second round.

Article 38. Repeated elections

In case the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan is deemed invalid or void, as well as if only one candidate run in the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and s/he did not receive the required number of votes, the Central Electoral Commission shall designate a repeated election. The repeated election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be conducted in the same procedure and in compliance with the same conditions as for the holding of main elections established by the present Law. In this case, the Central Electoral Commission may make a decision on the necessity to conduct the election with new composition of the district and precinct electoral commissions. Voting shall be conducted in the same polling precincts and with the voter lists prepared for the main elections.

The repeated election shall be conducted within 40 days after main elections.

Article 39. Assumption of the office of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall assume office upon taking an oath in the meeting of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan no later than two months after the official announcement by the Central Electoral Commission of the results of the election for the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The incumbent President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall exercise his/her powers until the assumption of office by the newly-elected President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

President of the Republic of Uzbekistan
I. Karimov

Tashkent city,
November 18, 1991,
№ 414-XII