According to the authority which has been given to the Board of commissioners in the article (4), item (8) of the Independent High Electoral Commission's law No. (11), in the year 2007 and the governorate council, districts, and sub-districts' elections no. (36) Of 2008 (amended), we decided issuing the following regulation:-

(Regulation)
(Polling, Counting, and Sorting)
No. 13, year 2008

(Preamble)

The independent High (Supreme) Electoral Commission in Iraq has been established according to the law no (11) of the year 2007 to be precisely the only electoral authority in Iraq, The commission is professional, autonomous, independent, and neutral, subjected to the supervision of the council of representatives.

(1st Section)
(Terms of IHEC)

The following terms represented the meaning in the face of each one of them:-

1. **"IHEC"**:-means the independent High electoral commission.
2. **" Polling employee"**:- Is the person who has been contracted with by IHEC to work at the days of elections according to conditions and regulations which has been issued by IHEC and who signed the Code of Conduct.
3. **" Polling center":-** Is the locations where elections are conducted and it contains two or more polling stations.
4. **"Polling station:** - Is a place within the polling center where the teamwork from the polling Staff Members is working to facilitate the process of voting of the voters, and where the processes of Counting and Sorting is taken place.

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5. **"Counting and Sorting centers in governorates":-** Is a location prepared centre in the governorates for the special voting needed for military forces, Internal Security Forces, Detainees, Convicted for less than five years, patients in hospitals, and IDP.
6. **"National Statistics Center:** - Is a national location where results of elections are collected.

(2nd Section)
(Polling and Sorting Locations)

1. Polling centers established in a proper locations in all of Iraq.
2. Each polling center will be headed by a coordinator (manager) who has the capability to organize the whole center and its staff and coordinating with the security forces in charge of protecting the center and is responsible in front of the sub-center manager.
3. Each polling station is managed by one responsible employee who supervises the electoral staff in that station.
4. The process of Counting and Sorting will be located during elections in the polling station where voting took place immediately after the completion of the polling process, except for what IHEC decides regarding the special and absentee voting for IDP.
5. The responsible employee on the polling station is responsible for managing the process of Counting and sorting the employee of each station will help the manager who is responsible in this process.
6. Any person enters the polling station is subjected to search. No one should carry a bag or any other container into the polling station but the IHEC staff who transport polling and sorting equipments.

(3rd Section)
(Voter Registration)

1. Each voter must be registered in the voter registration for one station (but who is excluded by IHEC taking into consideration Item 5 of this section), and he got the right to vote once.

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2. Voter registered in the polling station of the polling center must vote in person. Voting by proxy or authorization is prohibited.
3. The voter must present a photo or ID, in addition to enlisting his name in the voter registration.
4. Voters whose names are not listed in the VR are allowed to vote if they proved after showing the (111) form, that their names are registered in the VR in a specific polling unit precisely.
5. Regions where it is impossible for the voters to reach to vote in the polling centers because of the security situations or other complications then IHEC must set special arrangements to enable eligible voters to vote.
6. Those who are included with the SNV, IDP, and the polling staff of the elections will vote according to the procedures set by IHEC.

(4th Section)
(Polling process)

1. Voting process will start in polling center at 7:00 am until 5:00 pm, afternoon of the Election Day which is set by the law. Voting will be allowed for those who are waiting in the queues of the polling center at 5:00 pm.
2. In GCE , the nomination will be based on the open list system by which the voter got two choices either voting for the list by marking the box made for this purpose or voting for one of the candidates by marking the box which denoting number of the candidates within his list.
3. Each voter will mark the Ballot Paper in secrecy; illiterate, blind, and handicapped voter got the right to be helped by a relative or a friend chosen by him/her, or the employee responsible of the polling station. It is not allowed for any one but the in charge employee, to help more than two voters in that matter.
4. Each voter must dip his/her finger in the polling ink made for this purpose, otherwise they will not be allowed to vote.
5. It is not allowed for the voter to vote again when comes to the polling station with a finger marked with the ink of polling.

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(5th Section)
(Sorting and Counting Process)

1. Sorting and Counting process and the completion of their forms will be conducted after the completion of polling process in each polling station. The SNV and absentee voting for IDP will be conducted in counting and sorting centers in governorates.
2. At the completion of the polling process, station manager will count the ballot paper used by the voters in their polling station and then completing the process of counting the right voices for each list and candidate.
3. All decisions regarding the validity of the polling papers will be set or regarding the safety of one of the choices either for (the list or candidate) by the station's manager who should apply rules of IHEC's procedures in making his/her decision which will be final in that matter unless one of the sorting employees will object on it. In this case sorting employees will vote by majority and the decisive voice will be granted for the station's manager.

(6th Section)
(Collecting Results)

1. When the responsible employee is convinced with the accuracy of Sorting and Counting, the primitive results will be announced to those who presented inside the polling center after the end of Counting and sorting process, and then these results will be transferred to central location according to what IHEC decided.
2. The manager of Counting and Sorting process announces the primitive results after the finishing of Counting and sorting process to the presents.
3. Results will be entered in the database by the National Statistics center.
4. After reaching the final results of the total number of the votes got in the election, the results will be distributed according to the system of Seats distribution.

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(7th Section)
(Persons Authorized to enter the Polling, Counting, and Sorting Centers)

1. In addition to voters who are casting their votes, the following persons below are authorized to enter polling center or the station, or staying in it:-
   a. Polling Staff.
   b. IHEC authorized personnel.
   c. Accredited agents of coalitions and political entities.
   d. Accredited Electoral Observers.
   e. Accredited media representatives.
2. IHEC specifies the number of entities and electoral observers who got the right to be available in each station or polling centers.
3. It is not allowed to enter filming or photographs into the polling center or station without a previous approval from IHEC and it is not allowed to show the intention of the voter in voting by the use of filming and photographing even in case of his approval on that besides it is prohibited to make media interviews inside the polling center.
4. All security forces should stay out of the polling station or center, or out of the Counting and Sorting center in the governorate, unless an emergency situation authorized employer of IHEC calls for their entrance inside the location.

(8th Section)
(Date of enforceability)

This Regulation shall enter into force from the date of its ratification by the Board of Commissioners on 29/11/ 2008.

Board of Commissioners

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