LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

ON GUARANTEES OF SUFFRAGE TO CITIZENS

(Article 1. Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to participate in management of public and state affairs both directly and through their representatives. This right shall be implemented by citizen’s participation in referendums, elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and representative bodies of government.

Article 2. Suffrage of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan, vested by the Constitution, the present Law and other legislative acts, shall be under protection of the state.

Article 3. Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan regardless of their origin, social and property status, race and nationality, sex, education, language, stance toward religion, nature and character of occupation shall enjoy equal suffrage.

Article 4. Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to elect and be elected. The right to vote shall belong to citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan who have reached the age of 18. Each citizen voter shall have one vote.

The right to be elected President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall belong to citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan who have reached the age of 35, have a fluent command of the state language and have permanently resided in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan for not less than ten years prior to elections.

The right to be elected to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall belong to citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan who have reached the age of 25 by election day and have permanently resided in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan for not less than five years.

The right to be elected to the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall belong to citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan who have reached the age of 25 by election day, have permanently resided in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan for not less than five years, and have been elected to the Jokargi Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and local representative state authorities.

The right to be elected to local representative public authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall belong to citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan who have reached the age of 21 by election day and have permanently resided in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan for not less than five years.

Article 5. Any direct or indirect restriction of citizens’ suffrage, apart from requirements prescribed by legislative acts on elections, shall not be permitted.

Article 6. Voters, regardless of the place of their location, shall be guaranteed the right to directly participate in referendums, elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and representative public authorities.

Article 7. Voters shall have the right for free expression of their will and secret ballot. Precinct election commissions, whilst arranging the poll at specially designated premises, shall ensure to citizens the possibility for free expression of will by secret ballot.

Control over expression of will by voters shall not be permitted.
Article 8. Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan, who have reached the age of 18 by or on election day, permanently or temporarily residing in the territory of the respective electoral precinct, shall have the right to be included into the voter list.

Each voter may be included into only one voter list.

Article 9. Voters shall be provided with the opportunity to familiarize themselves in advance with the voter list at the premises of the precinct election commission.

Article 10. A voter shall have the right to appeal an error or inaccuracy in the voter list to the precinct election commission. The precinct election commission shall be obliged to review the appeal and either to correct the error or issue to the appellant a notice of substantiated decline of such appeal within 24 hours.

Article 11. A voter for some reason not timely included into the voter list shall be included into the list by the precinct election commission based on the document certifying the voter’s identity, citizenship, and place of residence.

Article 12. Voters shall have the right to campaign for and against the decisions submitted for nationwide voting, for and against candidates for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and candidates to representative bodies of government.

Voters shall be guaranteed the right to express their public activity through meetings, assemblies, and demonstrations in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 13. To arrange pre-election meetings, state authorities shall be obliged to provide voters with equipped premises and necessary reference and information materials. Voters shall be notified in advance of the time when and place where such assemblies and meetings are to be held.

Article 14. The election campaign shall be organized on the basis of wide publicity. Every voter shall have the right, throughout the election process, to search, receive and distribute information related to the formation of electoral districts and precincts, composition of election commissions, location and working hours of commissions, results of registration of candidate nominees, voting, and the election.

Decisions of the respective election commissions on formation of electoral districts and precincts, composition of election commissions, as well as on results of registration of candidate nominees, voting and the election shall be published in press.

Article 15. Voters shall have the right to familiarize with the program of future activities of political parties and individual candidates participating in the election.

Article 16. Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan enjoying suffrage who are not members of any political party and who are not candidates for deputy or their proxies may be members of election commissions.

Article 17. Voters shall be guaranteed the right to exchange a spoiled ballot for a new one on election day. The ballot shall be exchanged by the respective precinct election commission.

Article 18. Voters, who are unable on election day to stay at their place of residence, shall have the right to vote early.

The respective precinct election commission upon request of voters shall issue electoral lists of the established format containing the corresponding data about candidates. Voters may leave the filled-in electoral list in a sealed envelope to one of the members of the precinct election commission.
Article 19. Voters who are unable to arrive at the polling station due to poor health condition or some other reason shall have the right to make a respective request to the precinct election commission which shall be obliged to arrange voting at the place of such voters’ stay.

Article 20. Every citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be guaranteed legal protection of his/her suffrage, possibility to appeal against illegal actions of election commissions, state authorities, officials, or public associations in court.

Article 21. Liability shall be borne in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan for preventing citizens by violence, fraud, intimidation or otherwise from exercising their right to elect and be elected, to participate in a referendum, to conduct pre-election campaigning, as well as forging of documents, deliberate falsification of the vote count, other violations of laws on referendum, the election of the President, as well as on elections to representative bodies of government.

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