The Law on *Elections of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan* (New Revision)
18.01.2013

(This Revision was approved by the Law N 518-II passed on 29.08.2003) (The Law was amended according to the Law N 671-II dated 27.08.2004, Law N 714-II dated 03.12.2004, Law N 194 dated 25.12.2008, Law N-340 dated 19.12.2012.)

1. ON ELECTIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER OF THE OLIY MAJLIS OF UZBEKISTAN

SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Basic Principles of Elections of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan

The Legislative Chamber (lower house) of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan (hereinafter – Legislative Chamber) consists of one hundred and fifty members, elected for five years.

One hundred and thirty-five deputies of the Legislative Chamber shall be elected based on universal, equal, and direct electoral law with secret voting in territorial single-mandate electoral districts in multi-party competition.

Fifteen deputies of the Legislative Chamber shall be elected by the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan.

Article 2. Universal Right to Vote

Elections of deputies of the Legislative Chamber shall be universal. The citizens of Uzbekistan (hereinafter – citizens), who attained the age of eighteen as of the election day shall have the right to vote.

The citizens who turned twenty-five as of the elections day and had permanently resided in Uzbekistan for at least five years shall be entitled to be elected into the Legislative Chamber.

The citizens incapacitated by the court ruling, and the persons serving prison sentence after being convicted cannot be elected and shall not vote.

Article 3. Equal Right to Vote

Every citizen – voter shall have one vote.

Citizens, regardless of their gender, racial and ethnic background, language, religious affiliation, social origin, convictions, personal and public status, education, type and nature of profession, shall have equal right to vote.
Article 4. Direct Electoral Right

One hundred and thirty-five members of the Legislative Chamber shall be elected by citizens directly.

Article 5. Secret Voting

Voting in the elections of the members of the Legislative Chamber shall be free and secret. Control over expression of the will of the voters shall not be permissible.

Article 6. Transparency in Preparing and Holding Elections

Electoral commissions shall prepare and conduct elections of the Oliy Majlis is open and transparent manner.

Electoral commissions inform the citizens about their work, establishment of electoral districts, precincts, composition of electoral commissions, their location and timing of operation, release voters’ register, list of political parties involved in the elections, report the data on candidates for deputies of the Legislative Chamber (hereinafter – candidates), outcomes of the voting and elections.

The media of Uzbekistan shall cover the process of preparation and conducting elections.

One observer per political party, which nominated candidates for deputies, the media, observers from other countries, international organizations and movements shall be entitled to attend all activities for preparing and holding elections as well as in the premises for voting on the elections day and in vote count. Their powers must be endorsed by respective documents.

Stakeholder organizations report their observers to the district electoral commissions for elections of the Oliy Majlis (hereinafter - district electoral commissions) no later than fifteen days before elections.

District electoral commission shall, within five days after receipt of application from stakeholder organization, issue observer’s mandate, according to the sample determined by the Central Electoral Commission of Uzbekistan (hereinafter - Central Electoral Commission).

Observers shall be entitled to:

- Be present at the meetings of the district and precinct electoral commissions;
- Attend the Conference of the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan for nomination and election of the candidates for deputies of the Legislative Chamber from Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan;
- Attend the polling station and observe the process of preparation, installing and sealing of ballot boxes for voting, and issuance of ballots to citizens;
- Be present in the vote count and drafting of the protocol of the precinct electoral commission;
- Request and receive the copies of the documents on voting outcomes from the respective electoral commission;
• Report their observations to the superior electoral commission, if there are grounds to believe that violations of this Law occurred in the polling station.

Observers shall be prohibited:

• Be present in the booth or room for secret voting, when voter is making notes in the ballot;
• Influence voters, disseminate any campaign materials or literature;
• Ask voters who they voted for or provide any support to voters in making notes in the ballot;
• Interfere in the activities of precinct electoral commissions, including in sealing and opening of ballot boxes, and vote count.

CHAPTER 2. ELECTORAL DISTRICTS AND ELECTORAL PRECINCTS

Article 7. Establishment of Electoral Districts

One hundred and thirty-five territorial electoral districts shall be formed for elections of the Legislative Chamber. One deputy shall be elected from each electoral district.

Electoral districts for elections of deputies of the Legislative Chamber (hereinafter – electoral districts) shall be formed by the Central Electoral Commission based on the recommendation of the Jokargi Kenes of Karakalpakstan, khokimiats of oblasts and Tashkent city. Borders of electoral districts shall be defined considering administrative and territorial structure of Karakalpakstan, oblasts, and Tashkent city.

As a rule, electoral districts shall be formed with equal number of voters across entire territory of Uzbekistan. Benchmark of the number of voters per electoral district shall be set by the Central Electoral Commission for each elections.

Lists of electoral districts indicating their borders and number of voters shall be published by the Central Electoral Commission at least seventy-five days before elections.

Article 8. Procedures and Regulations for Forming Electoral Precincts

Electoral precincts shall be formed with consideration of the borders of the rayons, towns, rayons in the cities for creation of maximum conveniences for voters. Electoral precincts shall also be formed at military units and included in the electoral districts at the location of the bases. The borders of electoral precincts shall not cross the borders of electoral districts.

Polling stations can be established at the diplomatic/consular offices of Uzbekistan in foreign countries, sanatoria and resorts, hospitals and other inpatient health institutions, and settlements located in distant and remote areas, and penitentiary institutions. These polling stations shall be included in electoral districts formed according to their area of location. Affiliation of
the polling stations formed outside Uzbekistan to an electoral district shall be in the discretion of the Central Electoral Commission.

Electoral precincts shall be formed by district electoral commissions based on the recommendations of the khokimiats of rayons and towns. At military bases polling stations shall be set up by district electoral commissions based on the recommendations of the commanders of units. Electoral precincts shall be formed at the diplomatic/consular missions of Uzbekistan in foreign countries by the Central Electoral Commission based on the recommendation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan.

Electoral precincts shall be formed at least sixty days prior to elections. At the military units, missions of Uzbekistan in foreign countries as well as remote and inaccessible areas, electoral precincts shall be formed in the same period, and in exceptional cases – no later than five days before elections.

As a rule, electoral precincts shall be formed with at least twenty voters and no more than three thousand voters.

Khokimiats of rayons and cities shall provide the premises for voting for each electoral precinct.

District electoral commission shall inform voters about the borders of each electoral district indicating the location of precinct electoral commission and voting premises.

CHAPTER 3. ELECTORAL COMMISSIONS

Article 9. The System of Electoral Commissions

Elections of the Legislative Chamber shall be organized and held by:

- Central Electoral Commission;
- District electoral commissions;
- Precinct electoral commissions.

Article 10. Establishment of Central Electoral Commission

The Central Electoral Commission shall be formed according to the Law on Central Electoral Commission of Uzbekistan.

Article 11. Powers of the Central Electoral Commission

The Central Electoral Commission shall:
1) Oversee implementation of this Law in the entire territory of Uzbekistan and enable its uniform application within its powers and make explanations on organization of elections;
2) Form electoral districts, issue them titles and numbers;
3) Form district electoral commissions and publish the data about their location;
4) Coordinate the work of electoral commissions, determine the procedures of making changes in the composition, can independently or based on the recommendation of the Prosecutor General, annul the decisions of the district electoral commissions should they violate this Law;
5) Make decisions on subordination of polling stations set up outside Uzbekistan to an electoral district;
6) Receive respective documents from political parties, nominating candidates for deputies;
7) Register candidates for deputies;
8) Provide equal terms to the candidates for deputies in the electoral campaign;
9) Distribute funds among electoral commissions, control availability of premises, vehicles, and communications devices for electoral commissions, review other issues of technical support to elections;
10) Set forms and samples of ballots in the elections of the members of the Legislative Chamber, voters' register, signature lists, protocols of electoral commissions, other election-related documents, samples of ballot boxes and seals of electoral commissions, procedures for storage of election-related documents;
11) Hear the reports of the representatives of political parties, ministries, state committees and agencies, local authorities, other government bodies and associations with regard to the issues related to the preparation and holding of elections;
12) Sum up the results of elections nationwide in Uzbekistan, register elected deputies, publish reports on outcomes of elections and lists of elected members of the Legislative Chamber in the press;
13) Issue ID and badge of the member of the Legislative Chamber to the deputies;
14) Review requests and complaints related to the actions and decisions of electoral commissions and make relevant decisions;
15) Submit to prosecutor's office the materials on violations of this Law, which lead to criminal charges;
16) Enable transfer of documents related to elections to the archives;
17) Exercise other powers according to this Law and other legislative acts.

Article 12. Establishment of District Electoral Commission

District electoral commission shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission no later than seventy days prior to elections, consisting of a chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and at least six other members of the commission. Membership of district electoral commission shall be approved by the Resolution of the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 13. Powers of District Electoral Commission
District electoral commission shall:

1) Exercise oversight of implementation of this Law on the territory of electoral district;
2) Set up electoral precincts, determine their numbering by electoral district, publish their lists indicating addresses;
3) Coordinate activities of precinct electoral commissions;
4) Distribute funds among precinct electoral commissions, oversee provision of premises, vehicles, means of communications to precinct electoral commissions, and review other issues of technical support to the elections in the electoral district;
5) Provide equal terms to the candidates for deputies in the electoral campaign;
6) Publish the data on the candidates for deputies registered by the Central Electoral Commission and issue them appropriate I.Ds;
7) Facilitate meetings of candidates for deputies with voters;
8) Register trusted representatives of candidates for deputies and issue them respective I.Ds;
9) Hear reports of representatives of political parties, local authorities, other government bodies and public associations, managers of companies, institutions, and organizations on the issues related to preparing and holding of elections;
10) Observe drafting and public release of the voters’ registers;
11) Approve the text of the ballot of electoral district according to the sample endorsed by the Central Electoral Commission, enable production of ballot and provision to precinct electoral commissions;
12) Determine the results of voting in the electoral district and communicate to the Central Electoral Commission;
13) Organize repeated voting and re-elections as well as election of a deputy to replace the previous one;
14) Review complaints about the decisions and actions of precinct electoral commissions and make appropriate decisions;
15) Exercise other powers according to this Law and other legislative acts.

Article 14. Establishment of Precinct Electoral Commission

Precinct electoral commission shall be formed by district electoral commission. Precinct electoral commission shall be formed at least forty days prior to elections, consisting of 5-19 (five-to-nineteen) members including a chairman, a deputy chairman, and a secretary. If the commission has up to seven members, only a chairman and a secretary of the commission shall be elected. Composition of the precinct electoral commission shall be approved by the decision of the district electoral commission and published in the local press.

If needed, the number of the members of the precinct electoral commission can be increased or reduced.

The head of office shall act as the chairman of the precinct electoral commission at the diplomatic/consular offices of Uzbekistan abroad.

Article 15. Powers of Precinct Electoral Commission

Precinct electoral commission shall:

1) Draw up the register of voters in the precinct;
2) Present the voters’ register to the voters, receive and review statements about mistakes and inaccuracies in the register and make a decision on making appropriate changes;
3) Receive voting envelopes from the voters, who are not able to be at their place of residence on the day of elections and participate in voting;
4) Inform the public about the elections day and the place for voting;
5) Prepare the premises for voting, ballot boxes, and other voting equipment;
6) Organize voting at polling station on elections day;
7) Count the votes cast at the polling station;
8) Review applications and complaints related to preparation for elections, voting, and make respective decisions;
9) Exercise other powers according to this Law and other legislative acts.

Article 16. Membership in Electoral Commissions

Candidates for members of district electoral district shall be discussed at the meetings of the Jokargi Kenes of Karakalpakstan, oblast and Tashkent city Councils of People’s Deputies and recommended for approval to the Central Electoral Commission. Candidates for members of precinct electoral commission shall be discussed at the meetings of rayon and town Councils of People’s Deputies and recommended for approval at the respective district electoral commission. The members of district and precinct electoral commission appointed shall consist of authoritative members of the community.

Commission member may be dismissed based on their own will and in case of stripped powers.

The body, which formed the commission, shall be entitled to dismiss the commission member in case of violation of this Law or systematically ignoring his/her responsibilities.

If needed, a new member of the electoral commission shall be appointed according to the procedures mandated in this Law.

Chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and other members of electoral commissions cannot be members of political parties. Candidates for deputy cannot be members of electoral commission.

One person can be the member of only one electoral commission.

Article 17. Organization of Activities and Duration of the Mandate of Precinct Electoral Commission

Meeting of the precinct electoral commission shall be valid if attended by at least two-thirds of the commission members on the day of meeting. The decision of the commission shall be made by the majority of the commission through open voting. The commission members, who disagree with its decision, shall be entitled to issue their minority report, which shall be attached in writing to the protocol. In case of tie in the number of votes, the vote of the chairman shall prevail.

Decision of the precinct electoral commission made within its mandate shall be binding for execution by all inferior electoral commissions, government bodies, political parties, and other social institutions, labor unions, military units, managers of companies, institutions, and organizations.
Chairman, deputy chairman, secretary or another member of the electoral commission, based on the decision of the precinct electoral commission, can be relieved of his/her job responsibilities for the period of preparing and holding elections, retaining average salary using the funding allocated for elections.

Government bodies and public associations, companies, institutions, organizations, and officials shall assist the electoral commissions in implementing their mandate, providing them the data essential for their operation.

Government bodies, companies, institutions, and organizations shall make available premises and equipment required for preparation and holding of the elections to the electoral commissions.

Electoral commission shall be entitled to contact the government bodies and public associations, companies, institutions, organizations, and officials with issues related to preparation and holding elections, who must review the issue raised and respond no later than three days.

Mandate of the Central Electoral Commission may be terminated by the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan according to the Law on the Central Electoral Commission of Uzbekistan.

Precinct and district electoral commissions shall terminate their activities after the registration of deputies elected in respective electoral districts by the Central Electoral Commission

Article 17. Authorized Representative of Political Party

Political party, which nominated candidates for the Legislative Chamber, shall be entitled to appoint authorized representative for participation in the vote count at the polling station according to the procedures established by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 18. Review of Complaints about the Decision of Electoral Commissions

Decisions of electoral commissions may be appealed by the bodies of political parties, which nominated candidates for deputies, candidates themselves, trusted representatives, observers and voters to the superior electoral commission or a court within 10 days after the decision is made. Decisions of the Central Electoral Commission can be appealed to the Supreme Court of Uzbekistan within ten days after decision is made. The complaint must be reviewed within three days after it is received, and if less than six days are left to elections – immediately. Complainants shall be entitled to participate in the review of the complaint.

CHAPTER 4. ANNOUNCING THE START OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN. NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES

Article 19. Announcing the Start of Electoral Campaign
Start of electoral campaign shall be announced by the Central Electoral Commission in the media no later than three months prior to expiry of the powers of the deputies of the Legislative Chamber elected in the previous elections.

**Article 20. Right for Nomination of Candidate**

Political parties shall be entitled to nominate candidates for deputies.

Political party can nominate candidates for deputy provided that it had been registered by the Ministry of Justice of Uzbekistan at least four months before announcement about the start of election campaign and gathered at least forty thousand signatures of voters in support of its participation in the elections.

Blank signature lists of endorsed form shall be issued by the Central Electoral Commission after announcing the start of election campaign.

The percentage of signatures collected by the political party in one administrative-territorial unit (Karakalpakstan, oblast, Tashkent city) shall not exceed eight percent of forty thousand signatures.

In case of forged signatures in the signature lists, the Central Electoral Commission shall refuse the political party the right to run in the elections.

**Article 21. Documents to be Submitted by Political Parties to Run in Elections**

In order to nominate candidates for deputy, a political party shall submit following documents to the Central Electoral Commission at least seventy days prior to elections:

Application for participation in the elections signed by the party leader;

Certificate of the Ministry of Justice of Uzbekistan that the political party had been registered at least four months before announcement of the start of election campaign; signature lists.

Upon submission of documents indicated in the Part I of this Article, the Central Electoral Commission shall issue a dated certificate to the representative of the political party. Based on the submitted documents, the Central Electoral Commission shall make final decision in five days to allow the party to run in the elections. The list of parties running in the elections shall be published in the national press in the same order as the receipt of applications.

**Article 22. Nomination of Candidates by Political Parties**

Nomination of candidates for deputy shall start sixty days before elections and end forty-five days before elections.

Candidates for deputies shall be nominated by the highest organs of political parties.
Political parties shall be entitled to nominate one hundred and thirty-five candidates – one candidate for deputy in each electoral district. One person can be nominated as a candidate only in one electoral district. The procedures for selection of candidates for deputy shall be determined by the political parties themselves.

The number of women must constitute at least thirty percent of total number of candidates nominated by the political party.

Political parties shall nominate only the members of own party or non-partisan candidates. Protocol shall be issued on nomination of candidates.

Article 23 became null and void according to the Law # 194 of Uzbekistan passed on 25.12.2008

Article 23\(^1\). Verification of the Accuracy of Signature Lists by the Central Electoral Commission

Accuracy of signature lists presented by political parties shall be verified by the Central Electoral Commission.

The Central Electoral Commission may engage the experts of the police, justice authorities, and demographic statistics agencies for verification of the accuracy of signature lists. Their reports may serve as the grounds for recognition of the signatures contained in signature lists as forged by the Central Electoral Commission.

The procedures for verification of the accuracy of signature lists shall be determined by the Central Electoral Commission.

Authorized representatives of political parties shall be entitled to participate in the process of verification of the accuracy of signature lists by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 24. Documents submitted to the Central Electoral Commission for Registration of Candidates for Deputy

Leader of political party shall file application to the Central Electoral Commission with the request of registration for candidates. Following shall be attached to the application:

- Decision of the highest body of political party to nominate candidates;
- Protocol of the meeting of the highest body of political party to nominate candidates, indicating surname, first name, patronymic of candidate, date of birth, profession, occupation, job and place of residence, party affiliation, and number of electoral district;
- Application of the candidate indicating consent to run in the respective electoral district;
- Application of the candidate to relieve of his/her job in case he/she is elected as a deputy of the Legislative Chamber.

The Central Electoral Commission shall issue a certificate to the person, who submitted the documents, indicating the date and time of acceptance of documents.
The Central Electoral Commission shall verify and issue report on compliance of the documents submitted with the requirements of this Law.

The Central Electoral Commission shall inform the leaders of respective political parties about the detected inconformities and deviations of the documents submitted for registration from the requirements of this Law.

Article 25. Requirements to the Candidates for Deputy

Following persons shall not be registered as candidates for deputy:

- Citizens with uncancelled or uncleared conviction for committing grave or particularly grave crimes;
- Citizens, who had not lived in the territory of Uzbekistan in the last five years;
- Servicemen of the Armed Forces, officers of the National Security Service of Uzbekistan, other militarized units;
- Professional clergy of religious organizations and associations.

Article 26. Registration of Candidates for Deputy

The Central Electoral Commission shall stop receiving documents from political parties for registration of candidates seven days prior to the registration deadline.

Person nominated as a candidate for deputy according to this Law shall be issued an I.D.

Registration of candidates for deputy shall end thirty days prior to elections.

Respective district electoral commission, within five days after registration of the candidates by the Central Electoral Commission, shall publish a report about registration in the local press, indicating the surname, first name, patronymic, year of birth, party affiliation, occupation, place of work and residence, and the political party, which nominated the candidate.

CHAPTER 5. ELECTION CAMPAIGNING. GUARANTEES OF ACTIVITIES OF CANDIDATES FOR DEPUTIES

Article 27. Election campaigning

Election campaigning is an activity, undertaken in the electoral campaign period and focused on calling voters to vote for a candidate for deputy or for a political party.

Election campaigning starts from the day of registration of the candidate for deputy by the Central Electoral Commission. Electoral campaigning on the day of elections and the day before elections shall not be permissible.

It is prohibited to conduct electoral campaign along with free or subsidized provision of goods, services (except information) and making payments to voters.
Article 27¹. Types, Forms, and Methods of Electoral Campaigning

Election campaigning shall be held in the following form:

Disseminating information about the programme and(or) electoral platform of political party with the call to vote for its candidates;

Disseminating information about the candidate with the call to vote for him/her;

Election campaigning may be in the form of public debates, discussions, press-conferences, interviews, statements, meetings of voters, display of videos of the candidates, and political parties.

Election campaigning shall be in the form:

- Via the media and TV, public telecommunications network (including Internet);
- By production and dissemination of print materials, visual aids, audiovisual, and other promotion materials (banners, leaflets, and other materials);
- Meetings with voters.

Candidates for deputies and political parties can use other types, forms, and methods of election campaigning, not prohibited by legislation.

Article 27². Conducting Election Campaigning in the Media

In the process of election campaigning, candidates for deputies and political parties shall be provided equal access to the state media, obtaining free-of-charge equal length of air time and print space.

In the state media the candidates and political parties may be provided air time or print space for charge, too.

Non-government media may provide air time or print space to the candidates for deputies and political parties according to legislation.

Terms of payment for air time and print space set by the media involved in the election campaigning and other requirements must be equal and the same for all candidates for deputies and political parties.

Information disseminated in the media must conform to the reality, not violate the rights and legitimate interests of candidates for deputies and political parties. It is prohibited to disseminate unreliable data as well as information, which smear the honor and dignity of candidates for deputies.

Procedures, scope, and time of the use of the media for election campaigning shall be determined by the Central Electoral Commission in agreement with political parties.
Article 27\textsuperscript{3}. Conducting Election campaigning by Issuing and Disseminating Print Materials, Visual Aids, Audio/Video, and other Campaign Materials

Political parties shall be granted level ground for unhindered production and dissemination of print materials, visual aids, recordings, electronic versions of publications, and other promotion materials. Campaign materials must be produced in the territory of Uzbekistan.

Print materials, visual aids, audiovisual, and other campaign materials must contain:

- Name, location (postal address) and other data on legal entity (last name, first name, and patronymic of individual), which produced campaign materials;
- Name of legal entity (surname, first name, and patronymic of individual), which ordered campaign materials;
- Information on production and date of issue of campaign materials;
- Materials of election campaigning installed earlier on the buildings, structures, and other places shall be removed by the local authorities one day before elections.

Article 27\textsuperscript{4}. Conducting Election Campaigning by Conducting Meetings with Voters

Candidates for deputies, political parties shall be granted equal terms for election campaigning by holding meetings with voters.

Candidates for deputies and political parties meet voters independently. Place and time shall be coordinated with precinct electoral commissions, which inform the voters in advance.

Government bodies and economic actors, local authorities, public associations, and civil self-governance institutions shall provide equipped premises to the candidates and political parties free-of-charge for them to hold meetings with voters and receive essential reference and information materials.

Candidates or his/her trusted representatives, along with other candidates or their trusted representatives, shall be entitled to hold meetings with voters or attend meetings with voters, organized by other candidates and political parties.

Article 28. Trusted Representatives

Candidate for deputy may have up to ten trusted representatives. Trusted persons conduct campaign for election of the candidate for deputy, represent his/her interests in the relations with government bodies and public associations, voters, and electoral commissions.

After registration the candidates shall designate trusted representatives by their own discretion and inform the district electoral commission. Electoral commission shall register trusted representatives and issue them I.Ds.

Candidate for deputies can, at any time, strip their trusted representatives, of his/her mandate, informing district electoral commission. Trusted representative can relinquish his/her powers at any time.
Trusted representative cannot be a member of an electoral commission.

**Article 29. Relieving Candidates for Deputies from Job Duties to Enable Participation in Election campaigning**

Persons registered as candidates for deputies, at the time of meetings with voters, making statements at pre-election meetings, on television and radio, shall be entitled to be relieved from their occupational or job duties retaining their average salary using the funding made available for elections.

**Article 30. Right of Candidate for Free Ride on Public Transportation**

After registration candidate shall be entitled to free ride on all public transportation (except for urban passenger transportation, taxi and special transport) within respective electoral district. Candidate living beyond electoral district shall have the same right for travel to electoral district and back to place of residence.

**Article 31. Deprivation of the Status of Candidate for Deputy. Withdrawal of Nomination by Candidate**

Political party shall be entitled, no later than five days prior to elections, annul its decision to nominate any person as a candidate, which may be stripped of the status of candidate by the Central Electoral Commission. Before expiry of the period for nomination of candidates, political party can propose a new candidate to the Central Electoral Commission.

Termination of the activities of the political party strips the candidate of the right to run from this party in the elections.

Candidate for deputy can withdraw his/her nomination at any time. To do this, he/she shall send a request to the Central Electoral Commission.

**CHAPTER 6. VOTERS’REGISTER. BALLOT.**

**Article 32. Drafting voters’ register**

The register of voters shall include the last names of citizens who turned 18 before or on the day of elections, with permanent or temporary residence on the territory of this electoral precinct.

Every voter may be included only in one register of voters.

The register of voters shall be compiled in each electoral precinct by precinct electoral commission and signed by its chairman and secretary. Precinct electoral commission may engage the members of the public for participation in the compilation of the voters register.
The khokimiats of rayons and towns shall maintain the register of voters and submit the data on the voters residing in the respective area, required to produce the voters’ register, to the precinct electoral commissions.

The registers of voters – servicemen living at the military bases as well as family members of servicemen and other voters, in case they live in the same area of military units, shall be produced based on the data provided by the commanders of military units. Servicemen residing outside military bases shall be included in the voters' registers according to the place of residence on general terms.

Voters' registers of polling stations generated at the diplomatic/consular offices of Uzbekistan abroad, clinical resorts and holiday centers, hospitals and other inpatient health institutions shall be produced based on the data submitted by the management of these institutions (agencies).

Family names of voters shall be indicated in the voters’ register according to the procedures convenient for voting (based on alphabet, settlements, families, apartment blocks, etc.). The list must indicate the last name, first name, patronymic, date of birth, and address of each voter.

**Article 33. Public Release of Voters’ Register**

Voters’ registers shall be released for the public 15 days prior to elections, while at the polling stations established at diplomatic/consular missions of Uzbekistan in foreign countries, sanatoria and holiday centers, hospitals and other inpatient health institutions, remote and inaccessible areas – 7 days prior to elections. Precinct electoral commission shall inform the voters about the place and time of the release of voters’ register.

Citizens shall be entitled to see the voters’ register in the premises of precinct electoral commission.

**Article 34. Challenging Voters’ Register**

Any citizen of Uzbekistan may report the mistakes or ambiguities in the voters’ register to precinct electoral commission. Within 24 (twenty four) hours the precinct electoral commission must verify the report or redress the mistake or issue refusal to the reporter explaining the rationale for doing so.

Actions and decisions of the electoral commission may be appealed in court according to the procedures.

**Article 35. Ballot**

Surname, first name, patronymic of the candidate shall be entered into the ballot in alphabetical order indicating year of birth, occupation (profession) and political party, which nominated him/her as a candidate.
The ballot shall contain explanation of the order of filling-it out.

Ballots shall be printed in the state language, and in the languages used by the majority of population in the electoral district, based on the decision of district electoral commission.

**Article 36. Delivery of Ballots**

Precinct electoral commissions receive ballots from district electoral commissions no later than three days before elections. The acceptance report of ballots shall be endorsed by the signature of the chairman or deputy chairman or secretary of respective district and precinct electoral commissions.

The number of ballots received by precinct electoral commission cannot exceed the number of voters included in the voters’ register of polling station by over half a percent. The upper right corner of the ballot shall be signed by two members of the precinct electoral commission and endorsed by the seal of the precinct electoral commission. Ballots not endorsed by the commission shall not be considered in the vote count.

**CHAPTER 7. VOTING AND IDENTIFICATION OF THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS**

**Article 37. Voting Premises**

Votes shall be cast in the special premises where sufficient number of booths or rooms for secret voting must be equipped, the place for issuance of ballots must be designated, and ballot boxes must be installed. Ballot boxes shall be installed in the manner so that voters would go through booths or rooms for secret voting. No other political campaigns shall be permitted in the voting room. The precinct electoral commission shall be responsible for equipping the premises and maintaining the essential order.

**Article 38. Time and Place of Voting**

Votes shall be cast from 06.00 to 20.00. Precinct electoral commission shall inform the voters about the time and place of voting no later than 10 days before elections. At the polling stations established at the diplomatic/consular missions of Uzbekistan in foreign countries, military units, sanatoria and holiday centers, hospitals and other inpatient health institutions, remote and inaccessible areas, precinct electoral commission may announce voting finished at any time if all voters in the register have voted.

**Article 39. Start of Voting**

Voting premises shall open on the election day in the presence of at least two-thirds of the members of precinct electoral commission. Chairman, in the presence of the members of the electoral commission, shall seal the ballot box, distribute ballots and voters’ register among the
members of the electoral commission, and announce the start of elections. Total number of ballots shall be recorded in a separate document.

**Article 40. Identification of Voters**

Upon arrival to the voting premises, voter shall present identification document to the member of precinct electoral commission and sign in the voters’ register. Then, he/she shall be issued a ballot.

The family names of voters, not included in the register of voters for any reason, based on the ID, citizenship and place of residence of the voter, shall be included in the annex to the voters’ register.

**Article 41. Voting Procedures**

Voting ballot shall be filled-out by the voter in a booth or a room for secret voting. No person other than the voting person shall be permitted to be present while filling-out the ballot. The voter not capable of filling-out of the ballot independently shall be entitled to invite another person into the booth or the room at his/her discretion except the persons – members of the precinct electoral commission, observers, trusted persons and representatives of political parties. The voter shall put a cross in the blank square on the right side, against the last name of the candidate for deputy he/she is voting for.

Voter shall drop the filled-out ballot into the ballot box.

At the request of the voter, faulty/wasted ballot box may be replaced by a new one. Wasted ballots must be registered, canceled, and kept separately.

The voter unable to be at his/her place of residence on the election day, shall be entitled to vote early.

Early voting shall start ten days before the elections and end on the elections day. The district electoral commission shall determine the time of early voting, and communicate it to the voters, observers, and the media.

In order to vote early, the voter shall receive a ballot from the precinct electoral commission at his/her place of residence, indicating the grounds for being absent on the elections day (labor leave, business trip, travel abroad, etc.). In the presence of at least two members of the precinct electoral commission, the voter shall sign-off in the voters’ register for receipt of a ballot.

The ballot shall be filled-out by the voter in a specifically equipped booth or room for secret voting.

Voter shall make a decision and leave the ballot in a sealed envelope at the precinct electoral commission. Glue line of the envelope shall be signed by 2 members of precinct electoral commission, endorsed by the seal of the commission, and signature of the voter.

Form and procedure for producing a ballot and schedule for delivery of ballots to polling stations shall be determined by the Central Electoral Commission.
In case when voters, because of their health or other reasons, could not come to the voting premises, precinct electoral commission shall assign commission members to arrange voting at the location of these voters in response to their request.

**Article 42. Vote Count at Polling station**

After voting is finished, in the presence of the members of the precinct electoral commission, closed envelopes with ballots to be dropped in the ballot boxes before opening them. Unused ballots and shall be counted and invalidated by the precinct electoral commission.

Ballot boxes shall be opened after announcing the end of voting by the chairman of the precinct electoral commission. It shall not be allowed to open ballot boxes before the end of voting.

The precinct electoral commission shall determine total number of voters on the precinct, the number of voters, who received ballots.

The precinct electoral commission shall separately count votes cast at the polling station for each candidate.

Based on the ballots in the ballot boxes, the precinct electoral commission shall determine:

- Total number of voters who cast votes;
- Number of votes cast for each candidate;
- Number of invalidated ballots.

Votes cast for individuals whose last names were added to the ballot by the voters shall not be counted.

Non-standard ballots as well as ballots where cross mark is set on more than one blank or is not set altogether shall be invalidated. In case of doubts in the validity of ballots, the precinct electoral commission shall make a decision by voting.

An authorized representative of a political party, which had nominated its candidate, can participate in the vote count at the polling station.

The results of the vote count shall be discussed at the meeting of the precinct electoral commission and included in the protocol, which shall be signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, and other members of the precinct electoral commission. Then, this protocol shall be announced by the chairman or deputy chairman of the precinct electoral commission and a copy of this protocol shall be made available for the public in the premises of precinct electoral commission for the period of at least 48 hours. The protocol of the precinct electoral commission shall be submitted to the district electoral commission according to the procedures.

The authorized representative of political party, involved in the vote count process, shall be entitled to see the protocol of the precinct electoral commission.

**Article 43. Identification of the Result of Elections in the District**
The results of elections in the electoral districts shall be determined solely based on the submitted protocols of precinct electoral commissions. District electoral commission shall determine:

- Total number of voters in the district;
- Number of voters, who received ballots;
- Number of voters who voted.
- Number of votes cast for each candidate;
- Number of invalidated ballots.

The results of the elections in the district shall be established at the meeting of electoral commission and included in the protocol. The protocol shall be signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, other members of the commission, and submitted to the Central Electoral Commission.

**Article 44. Identification of the Results of Elections of Deputies of the Legislative Chamber**

The Central Electoral Commission shall, based on the protocols of district electoral commissions, determine:

- Total number of voters in Uzbekistan;
- Number of voters, who received ballots;
- Number of voters who cast votes;
- Number of votes cast for each candidate;
- Number of invalidated ballots

Candidate, who received over the half of votes of the voters who cast votes, shall be considered elected.

Elections shall be considered invalid, if attended by less than thirty-three percent of voters enlisted in the voters’ register.

Elections in general or in certain districts or certain electoral precincts can be invalidated due to the violations in the election process, which affected voting outcomes. Decision on invalidating elections shall be made by the Central Electoral Commission and can be appealed to the Supreme Court of Uzbekistan within ten days after publication of the results of elections.

In case the elections in certain electoral precincts are invalidated, the results of the voting in these precincts shall be excluded from overall results of the elections based on the decision of the Central Electoral Commission, provided that elections can be recognized as held without them.

The Central Electoral Commission shall prepare a protocol and make a decision based on the results of elections.

**Article 45. Repeated Voting**
If more than two candidates were nominated in the electoral district and none was elected, district electoral commission shall make a decision to conduct repeated voting for two candidates who received the most number of votes and inform the Central Electoral Commission and voters in the district. Re-voting shall be conducted in two weeks complying with the requirements of this Law.

The candidate, who received the most number of votes of the voters who cast votes in the re-elections, compared to the other candidate shall be considered elected.

Percentage of voter turnout shall not be considered in re-elections.

**Article 46. Re-election of the Member of the Legislative Chamber**

Re-elections of the member of the Legislative Chamber shall be conducted in the following cases:

- a) If elections in electoral district were invalidated or nullified;
- b) If re-elections did not enable to identify elected deputy of the Legislative Chamber;
- c) If not more than two candidates were nominated in the electoral district and none was elected.

Re-elections of the deputy of the Legislative Chamber shall be conducted by the district electoral commission with assignment of the Central Electoral Commission. The Central Electoral Commission may make a decision to conduct re-election by new membership of the district and precinct electoral commissions. Voting shall be done in the same electoral precincts and based on the voters’ registers produced for the main elections.

Repeated elections of the deputy of the Legislative Chamber shall be held no later than one month after the main elections. Establishment of electoral commissions, registration of candidates, and other activities shall be conducted in the order established by this Law.

**Article 47. Elections of the Members of the Legislative Chamber to Replace Previous Deputies**

In case the Central Electoral Commission recognizes the mandate of certain deputies void, and in case of deputy’s incapacitation, premature termination of the powers of the deputies, new elections shall be conducted in the respective electoral districts. Elections shall be arranged by the Central Electoral Commission no later than one month prior and organized in compliance with this Law. District electoral commission shall be formed twenty-five days, and precinct electoral commissions – fifteen days prior to elections. Registration of candidates shall end fifteen days prior to elections.

In case of resignation of deputy of the Legislative Chamber, at least six months before prior to expiry of the mandate of the Legislative Chamber, the elections of new deputy may not be held.

**CHAPTER 7. PROCEDURES FOR ELECTION OF DEPUTIES OF THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT OF UZBEKISTAN**
Article 47¹. Election of Deputies of the Legislative Chamber to Represent the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan

Fifteen deputies of the Legislative Chamber from the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan shall be elected by the highest body of this movement (Conference) by the deadline set by the Central Electoral Commission.

Procedures for nomination of the deputies of the Legislative Chamber from the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan and their election shall be determined by the Central Electoral Commission.

Preparation and holding of elections of the deputies of the Legislative Chamber by the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan shall be open and transparent.

Article 47². Requirements to the Persons to be Elected as the Members of the Legislative Chamber by the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan

Requirements envisaged in the Parts 2 and 3 of the Article 2 and 25 of this Law shall be applied to the persons to be elected as deputies of the Legislative Chamber from the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan,

Article 47³. Documents to be Submitted to the Central Electoral Commission

Representative of the highest body of the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan shall present the list of elected deputies of the Legislative Chamber from the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan to the Central Electoral Commission.

Following shall be attached to the list:

- Decision of the highest organ of the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan about election of the members of this Movement as deputies of the Legislative Chamber;
- Excerpt from the protocol of the meeting of the highest organ of the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan, indicating the surname, first name, patronymic, date of birth, occupation (profession), place of work and residence of every person elected as a deputy of the Legislative Chamber from Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan.
- Application of the deputy elected on relieving him/her from the job in case of registration as a deputy.

The Central Electoral Commission shall issue a certificate, indicating the date and time of receipt to the representative of the highest organ of the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan, who submitted documents.

The Central Electoral Commission shall verify and issue opinion on compliance of the submitted documents with the requirement of this Law within seven days. The Central Electoral Commission shall inform the representative of the highest organ of the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan about irregularities and inconformities with the requirements of this Law in the documents submitted for registration according to the procedures.
Article 47. Re-elections of the Deputies of the Legislative Chamber from the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan

Re-elections of the deputies of the Legislative Chamber from the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan shall be held in those cases where elections of the deputies from the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan were invalidated or nullified. The procedures of re-election of the deputies of the Legislative Chamber of Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan shall be determined by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 47. Conducting Elections of Deputies of the Legislative Chamber from the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan to Replace Previous Deputies

New elections shall be conducted in case of recognition of the mandate of deputies elected by Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan into the Legislative Chamber by the Central Electoral Commission as null and void, and in case of dismissal of the deputy or premature termination of deputy’s mandate for other reasons.

CHAPTER 8. REGISTRATION OF DEPUTIES AND PUBLICATION OF THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS

Article 48. Registration of Deputies of the Legislative Chamber

The Central Electoral Commission, based on received protocols of district electoral commissions, respective decision of the highest organ of the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan, shall register elected deputies of the Legislative Chamber and inform the deputies accordingly.

Persons elected as the deputies of the Legislative Chamber shall report in writing to the Central Electoral Commission about relinquishing their duties not compliant with the status of the deputy of the Legislative Chamber.

Persons elected as deputies including those from the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan gain the status of the deputy of the Legislative Chamber from the moment of registration by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 49. Publication of the Results of the Elections of Deputies of the Legislative Chamber

Report on outcomes of elections and the list of elected deputies of the Legislative Chamber shall be published by the Central Electoral Commission in the press no later than ten-day period indicating the surname, first name, patronymic, year of birth, party affiliation, occupation (profession), place of work and residence, number and name of electoral district.
II. PROCEDURE OF FORMATION OF THE SENATE OF THE OLIY MAJLIS OF UZBEKISTAN

Article 50. Formation of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan

The Senate (upper house) of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan (hereinafter – Senate) is the chamber of territorial representation and consists of the members of the Senate (senators).

Members of the Senate shall be elected in equal numbers – six persons – from Karakalpakstan, oblasts, and Tashkent city. Elections of the Senate shall be conducted by secret voting at respective joint sessions of the deputies of the Jokargi Kenes of Karakalpakstan, councils of oblasts, rayons, and towns, with candidates from the ranks of these deputies.

Sixteen members of the Senate shall be appointed by the President of Uzbekistan from the ranks of the most distinguished citizens with solid practical experience and special distinction in the area of science, arts, literature, manufacturing, and other areas of state and public activities.

Terms of the Senate – five years.

Article 51. Elections of the Councils of Karakalpakstan, Oblasts, Rayons, and Cities

Elections of the councils of Karakalpakstan, oblasts, rayons and towns shall be conducted according to the Law on Elections of Oblast, Rayon, and Town Councils of People’s Deputies, and other legislative acts of Uzbekistan and Karakalpakstan.

Article 52. Timeline of the Senate Elections

Elections of the Senate shall be conducted no later than one month after election of the Jokargi Kenes of Karakalpakstan and local councils.

Article 53. Requirements to the Candidates Nominated for the Member of the Senate

Deputy of Jokargi Kenes of Karakalpakstan, council of the oblast, rayon, town, who turned twenty five on the elections day and permanently residing on the territory of Uzbekistan for at least five years can be a candidate for election as a Senate member.

Article 54. Validity of Joint Session of Local Councils

Joint session of elected bodies shall be valid if attended by at least two-thirds of total number of deputies.
Article 55. Convening Joint Session of Local Councils, nominating the Candidates for Senate members, Voting

Convening joint session of the elected bodies, nominating candidates for Senate members, and voting shall follow the procedures established by legislation.

Statute on procedures for election of the Senate members on respective joint sessions of the deputies of Jokargi Kenes of Karakalpakstan, councils of oblasts, rayons, and towns shall be drafted and approved by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 56. Identification of the Results of Voting on the Elections of the Senate Members

Those candidates for Senate members, who received more votes than other candidates provided that over fifty percent of the deputies of councils present at the session votem for them shall be considered elected.

Article 57. Re-election

If, mandated number of the Senate members were not elected in voting, re-election shall be conducted at the same joint session of the council for candidates who had not received enough votes to fill the underelected number of Senate members.

Article 58. Outcomes of Elections of Senate Members

The Central Electoral Commission, based on the protocols of joint sessions of local councils, shall register the members of the Senate no later than five days after receipt.

The Central Electoral Commission may invalidate the elections of the members of the Senate, if, it the results of secret voting established that in vote count, violations of this Law, which affected the voting results, had occurred.

Article 59. Appealing the Results of Elections of Senate Members

Decisions of joint sessions of local councils on elections of the Senate members, and the Central Electoral Commission, may be appealed to the Supreme Court of Uzbekistan within ten days after they are adopted.

Article 60. Re-election of Senate Members

Re-elections of the Senate members shall be held in the following cases:
If elections are recognized as invalidated:

a) If mandated number of Senate members had not been elected as a result of re-election.

In cases envisaged by Section “b” of this Article, repeated elections shall be conducted to elect missing members of the Senate.

Re-elections of the Senate members shall be held no later than fifteen days after main elections of the Senate.

Nomination of the candidates for underelected number of Senate members and conducting re-elections shall be done in the procedures established by this Law.

**Article 61. Conducting Elections to Replace Resigned Members of the Senate**

Elections of the members of the Senate to replace previous ones shall be done at joint sessions of the deputies of Jokargi Kenes of Karakalpakstan, councils of oblasts, rayons, and towns in compliance with requirements of this Law.

In case of resignation of a Senate member earlier than six months before expiry of the mandate of the Senate, elections of the new member of the Senate to replace the previous one does not have to be held.

**Article 62. Publication of the Results of Establishment of the Senate**

Report on outcomes of formation of the Senate and list of members of the Senate, indicating the surname, first name, patronymic, year of birth, occupation, place of work and residence shall be published in the press of the Central Electoral Commission within ten days.

**III. FINAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 63. I.D. and Badge of the Deputy of the Legislative Chamber and the Member of the Senate**

Deputy of the Legislative Chamber and the member of the Senate of the Central Electoral Commission shall be issued I.D. and badge of deputy of the Legislative Chamber.

The samples of the I.D. and barge of the deputy of the Legislative Chamber and the member of the Senate shall be set by legislation.

**Article 64. Financing Elections**
Expenses related to the preparation and holding of elections of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan shall be funded by the government. Financing and other material support to the candidates for deputies of the Legislative Chamber and the members of the Senate by other funds shall be prohibited.

Political parties and other public associations, companies, institutions, organizations, and citizens can voluntarily transfer their funds to hold elections. These funds shall be received by the Central Electoral Commission for use in the election campaign.

**Article 65. Responsibility for Violation of this Law**

Persons, which hinder citizens’ right to elect and to be elected into the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan by violence, fraud, threat or other means, conduct pre-electoral campaigning, and members of the electoral commissions, other officials, representatives of political parties, who forged electoral documents, deliberately counted the votes inaccurately, violated the secrecy of votes or breached this Law otherwise shall be prosecuted according to this Law. Persons, who published false data on the candidate for deputy of the Legislative Chamber or candidate for Senate.

Within 3 days before voting day as well as on voting day, the results of the public surveys, projections of the results of elections, other studies related to the elections including placement thereof in the information and telecommunications networks (including Internet) shall not be permitted.

**President of Uzbekistan**

Islam Karimov

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