

Republic of South Sudan
National Elections Commission

Pursuant to Sections 134, 135 and 139 of the “National Elections Act, 2012 (Amendment) Act, 2023” the National Elections Commission of the Republic of South Sudan issues:

Regulation No 2/2024 on Observers, Media Representatives, Agents and Special Guests

Section 1
Definitions

1.1. For the purpose of this Regulation, the following terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context determines otherwise:

- a. “Accreditation Committee”: means the Committee established by the NEC at its headquarters or at a lower-level entity responsible for the review of the requests for accreditation of observers, media representatives, agents and special guests;
- b. “Accreditation Card”: means an identification card issued to a particular person, certifying that this person may participate in the election process as a citizen or international observer, agent, media representative or special guest;
- c. “Act”: means the National Elections Act 2012 (Amendment) Act 2023;
- d. “Agent”: means a person nominated by a political party, coalition or independent candidate as their representative, who shall have the right to monitor the electoral process and to submit, verbally or in writing, any questions or objections to the registration, polling, counting and results aggregation processes;
- e. “Calendar days”: means the days of the week, including weekends and official holidays;
- f. “Citizen election observers”: means non-partisan national election observers mobilised by citizen organisations in a politically neutral and independent manner to exercise their right of participation in public affairs by observing and reporting on electoral developments;
- g. “Code of Conduct”: means the Code of Conduct for Observers, Media Representatives, Agents and Special Guests issued by the NEC;
- h. “Election observer” or “observer”: means any person or an organization belonging to one of the groups provided for in Section 134 (3) of the Act, excluding media organisations and their representatives accredited under this Regulation in accordance with the Act;
- i. “Headquarters”: means the NEC headquarters in Juba;
- j. “NEC”: means the National Elections Commission of the Republic of South Sudan;
- k. “Observation”: means the collection of information regarding the electoral process without intervening in the process itself, which may include the production of reports on the conduct of the process on the basis of information collected by accredited observers;
- l. “Media organization”: means an entity engaged in disseminating information to the general public through electronic, print, broadcast, social media, or other medium of mass communication;
- m. “Media representative”: means a person designated as a member of the press or mass media organization;
- n. “Special guest”: means a member of an organization providing international technical electoral assistance, diplomatic mission, foreign governments and other international and regional organization not involved in observation activities, election management bodies from other countries, accredited by the NEC to witness the electoral process;

- o. "Working days": means the days of the week without the weekends and official public holidays. If a deadline falls on a weekend or a public holiday, it is extended to the next working day.

Section 2 General Provisions

2.1. This Regulation on observers, media representatives, agents and special guests, hereinafter the "Regulation", establishes the criteria for the accreditation of observers, media representatives, agents and special guests, the procedure for accreditation as well as their duties and rights.

2.2. This Regulation applies to all elections and referenda in the Republic of South Sudan.

2.3. No fees shall be paid for accreditation.

2.4. The implementation of observation and monitoring and other activities is the sole responsibility of the accredited international and national organizations, political parties, coalitions, independent candidates, media and others. The NEC shall not provide any logistical, financial or operational support for the conduct of observation activities.

Section 3 Formation of an Accreditation Committee and the Accreditation Process

3.1. The NEC shall form an Accreditation Committee at its headquarters. Depending on the type of election, this task may be delegated to NEC committees at state or other levels.

3.2. The Accreditation Committee shall be composed of employees from the NEC Secretariat, supervised by three (3) NEC Commissioners as assigned by the NEC. The Accreditation Committee shall be responsible for:

- a. Examining and responding to the applications for accreditation submitted by organizations, political parties, other entities and individuals based on the documentation required by the NEC;
- b. Preparing draft decisions on accreditation and submitting it to the three (3) NEC Commissioners overseeing the work of the Accreditation Committee;
- c. Producing accreditation cards;
- d. Maintaining records and data of accredited organizations and individuals, including information about any revocation of accreditations, gender breakdown, and sharing statistical data with the public at regular intervals in line with the NEC rules on information sharing.

3.3. The three (3) NEC Commissioners in charge of accreditation shall review the documents and decide on the accreditation request within ten (10) working days after the application for accreditation was received by the NEC. If all three (3) NEC Commissioners in charge of accreditation agree to accredit or not accredit a relevant entity and their observers, their decision shall be considered as taken on behalf of the entire board of Commissioners. In case the three (3) NEC Commissioners in charge of accreditation consider there are sufficient grounds for revocation of an accreditation, the relevant decision shall be made by the entire board of Commissioners.

3.4. Accreditation cards shall be issued at NEC headquarters. The NEC may decide to issue accreditation cards at state or other levels. In the latter case, such a decision shall be announced on the NEC website.

Section 4

Application for Accreditation as Citizen Election Observers from Civil Society Organizations

4.1. Based on Section 134(3)(d) of the Act, any South Sudanese organization seeking to be accredited as citizen election observer, shall submit the request to the NEC in writing not later than 30 calendar days before Election Day, according to the modalities and forms stipulated by the NEC. The NEC may make use of electronic means of submission.

4.2. The written request for accreditation shall be submitted by the president or designated legal representative of the organization and include the following documents:

- a. Duly filled application form;
- b. A valid certificate of registration of the organization;
- c. Name of the president of the organization and a designated legal representative;
- d. A duly signed NEC Code of Conduct for Observers (Annex 1).

4.3. The NEC shall notify the requesting organization of the decision on accreditation within ten (10) working days from the receipt of the accreditation request.

4.4. Organizations accredited with the NEC shall provide the list of individual observers, together with a copy of a valid identification document (such as national identification card, birth certificate or any other official document proving the identity of the applicant) and a signed Code of Conduct for Observers for each individual on the list, within seven (7) working days from the confirmation of the accreditation.

4.5. The NEC shall confirm the receipt of an accreditation request and, if required, request any missing documentation, to be provided within five (5) working days from the receipt of the request, from the legal representative of the organization.

Section 5

Application for Accreditation as Observers by Judges and Legal Counsellors of the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

5.1. Based on Section 134(3)(a) and (b) of the Act, and according to the modalities and forms stipulated by the NEC, the following documents shall be submitted by the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs as a request for the accreditation as an observer by judges and legal counsellors. The request shall be submitted to the NEC in writing not later than 30 calendar days before Election Day;

- a. Duly filled application form;
- b. A list with the names and data of all judges and legal counsellors who want to be accredited as observers;
- c. Copy of a valid identification document (such as national identification card, birth certificate or any other official document proving the identity of the applicant);
- d. A duly signed NEC Code of Conduct for Observers (Annex 1).

5.2. The NEC may make use of electronic means of submission.

Section 6

Application for Accreditation as Observers of Former Public Service Employees or Eminent Persons

6.1. Based on Section 134(3)(c) of the Act, and according to the modalities and forms stipulated by the NEC, the following documents shall be submitted in writing not later than 30 calendar days before

Election Day, as a request for accreditation as an observer by former public service employees or persons from the community who are known for their integrity and honesty:

- a. Duly filled application form;
- b. Copy of a valid identification document (such as national identification card, birth certificate or any other official document proving the identity of the applicant);
- c. A document proving that the applicant for accreditation worked as a public service employee or a document from the traditional administrative authority certifying the integrity and honesty of the applicant for accreditation;
- d. A duly signed NEC Code of Conduct for Observers (Annex 1).

6.2. The NEC may make use of electronic means of submission.

Section 7

Application for Accreditation of Media Representatives

7.1. Based on Section 134(3)(e) of the Act, any national or international media organization seeking to be accredited to access NEC's premises during the electoral process, shall submit such request to the NEC in writing, not later than 30 calendar days before Election Day, according to the modalities and forms stipulated by the NEC. The NEC may make use of electronic means of submission.

The written request for accreditation shall be submitted by the president or designated legal representative of the media organization and include the following documents:

- a. Duly filled application form;
- b. Registration certificate of the South Sudanese media organization with the national media authority;
- c. Evidence that the international media organization is registered or licensed under media laws in its country of operation;
- d. Name of the president or chairperson of the organization and a designated legal representative;
- e. A duly signed NEC Code of Conduct for Media Representatives (Annex 3).

7.2. The NEC shall notify the requesting media organization of the decision on accreditation within ten (10) working days from the receipt of the accreditation request.

7.3. Media organizations accredited with the NEC shall provide the list of individual representatives together with a copy of a valid identification document (such as passport, South Sudanese identity card, South Sudanese birth certificate or any other official document proving the identity of the applicant) and a signed Code of Conduct for each individual on the list, within seven (7) working days from the confirmation of the accreditation.

7.4. The NEC shall confirm the receipt of an accreditation request and, if necessary, request any missing documentation, to be provided within five (5) working days from the receipt of the request to the legal representative of the organization.

Section 8

Application for Accreditation as International Observers

8.1. Based on Section 134(4) of the Act, any non-governmental, governmental or inter-governmental international or regional organization, specialized and engaged in the field of elections or the

protection of human rights and seeking to be an international election observer, shall submit the request to the NEC in writing no later than thirty (30) days before Election Day, according to the modalities and forms stipulated by the NEC. The NEC may make use of electronic means of submission.

8.2. The written request for accreditation shall be submitted by the president or designated legal representative of the organization and include the following documents:

- a. Duly filled application form;
- b. Invitation letter issued by the relevant national authority;
- c. Statute or mandate of the organization or of the international observer mission (if applicable);
- d. Name of the president of the organization or of the head of the international observer mission and a designated representative;
- e. A duly signed NEC Code of Conduct for Observers (Annex 1).

8.3. The NEC shall notify the requesting organization of the decision on accreditation within ten (10) working days from the receipt of the accreditation request.

8.4. Organizations accredited with the NEC shall provide the list of individual observers, together with a copy of a valid passport and a signed Code of Conduct for Observers for each individual on the list, within seven (7) working days from the confirmation of the accreditation.

8.5. The NEC shall confirm the receipt of the accreditation request and, if required, request any missing documentation, within five (5) working days from the receipt of the request from the organization or international observer mission.

Section 9

Application for Accreditation as Political Party, Coalition and Independent Candidate Agents

9.1. Based on Section 134(3)(f) of the Act, any political party registered with the Political Party Council or coalition can apply to be accredited by the NEC to monitor the parts of the electoral process preceding the political parties', coalitions' and candidate's nomination and approval process by the NEC.

9.2. The political party registered with the Political Party Council or coalition willing to monitor the process shall submit the request to the NEC in writing, according to the modalities and forms stipulated by the NEC. The NEC may make use of electronic means of submission.

9.3. Only registered political parties, coalitions contesting the elections with approved candidates and approved independent candidates can be accredited to monitor the electoral process following the political parties', coalitions' and independent candidate's nomination and approval process.

9.4. The political party, coalition and independent candidate that have registered to stand for election and have not yet been accredited to monitor the electoral process, shall submit the request for accreditation to the NEC in writing no later than thirty (30) days before Election Day, according to the modalities and forms stipulated by the NEC. The NEC may make use of electronic means of submission.

9.5. The written request for accreditation shall be submitted by the president of the political party or coalition or the independent candidate or their legal representatives and include the following documents:

- a. Duly filled application form;

- b. For political parties and coalitions applying to monitor the process preceding the nomination period: a proof of registration with the Political Parties Council and the coalition agreement deposited with the Political Parties Council;
- c. For political parties, coalitions and independent candidates nominated as electoral contestants and not previously accredited, a copy of the NEC candidate registration document.
- d. Name of the president of the political party or coalition or of the independent candidate and of a designated legal representative;
- e. A duly signed NEC Code of Conduct for Agents (Annex 2).

9.6. The NEC shall notify the requesting political party, coalition or independent candidate of the decision on accreditation within ten (10) working days from the receipt of the accreditation request.

9.7. Political parties, coalitions and independent candidates accredited by the NEC shall provide a list of individual agents, together with a copy of a valid identification document (such as national identity card, birth certificate or any other official document proving the identity of the agent), and a signed code of conduct by each individual on the list, within seven (7) working days from the confirmation of the accreditation.

9.8. The NEC shall confirm the receipt of the accreditation request and, if necessary, request any missing documentation, within five (5) working days from the receipt of the request to the legal representative of the political party, coalition or candidate and his/her legal representative.

Section 10

Accreditation of Special Guests

10.1. The NEC can accredit as special guests to witness the electoral process international providers of technical assistance, diplomatic missions not involved in official observation missions, election management bodies from foreign countries, and other international and regional organizations.

10.2. The entities listed in section 10.1 of this Regulation shall submit a request for accreditation as special guests and their staff, including, if necessary, interpreters and security personnel, to the NEC in writing no later than twenty (20) days before Election Day, according to the modalities and forms stipulated by the NEC. The NEC may make use of electronic means of submission.

10.3. The written request for accreditation shall be submitted by the president or designated legal representative of the entity and include the following documents:

- a. Duly filled application form;
- b. Statute or mandate of the entity (if applicable);
- c. Name of the head of the entity and a designated legal representative;
- d. A duly signed NEC Code of Conduct for Special Guests (Annex 4).

10.4. Special guests shall not be considered observers and shall not issue statements, reports or recommendations on the quality of the electoral process.

Section 11
Reasons for Rejecting an Application for Accreditation

11.1. An application for accreditation shall be rejected if submitted after the deadline for submission, or if it is incomplete or submitted by an organization, institution or other entity that is not eligible to observe the electoral process.

11.2. Any political party, coalition or independent candidate, national or international organization, or media organization that was denied accreditation may submit a written objection to the NEC, within a deadline of three (3) working days following the notification of the rejection of the application of the accreditation, annexing any necessary documents to support its objection.

11.3. Any political party, coalition or independent candidate, national or international organization, or media organization that was denied accreditation for some or all of their agents, representatives, guests or observers, or any former public service employee or eminent person who was denied accreditation, may submit a written objection to the NEC, within a deadline of three (3) working days following the notification of the rejection of the application of the accreditation, annexing any necessary documents to support its objection.

11.4. The NEC (in a board meeting) shall decide on the objection within three (3) calendar days from the time of submission but no later than five (5) calendar days before election day.

Section 12
Number of Observers, Media Representatives, Agents and Special Guests allowed inside Registration, Polling and Aggregation Sites and Other NEC Facilities

In accordance with Section 134(7) of the Act and in order to avoid congestion and hinder the electoral process:

- a. The number of observers, media representatives and special guests from the same organization that may be present at the same time in a registration site, polling and counting station and any other NEC facility may not exceed two (2);
- b. The number of observers, media representatives and special guests from the same organization that may be present at the same time in aggregation sites may not exceed four (4);
- c. No more than one (1) agent per political party/independent candidate and no more than two (2) agents per coalition may be present at polling, counting or aggregation sites, and any other NEC facility at the same time;
- d. If the total number of observers, agents, media representatives and special guests in any NEC facility is disrupting the electoral process, the election official in charge of the facility may reduce the number or offer rotation of those present while ensuring that all organisations, media, political parties, coalitions and independent candidates are still represented.

Section 13
Revocation of Accreditation of Observers, Media Representatives, Agents and Special Guests

13.1. The NEC, or a lower-level committee as envisaged in Section 3.1 of this Regulation, by a decision taken in accordance with section 135 of the Act (section 149 of the 2012 National Elections Act), may at any time revoke the accreditation of an observer, media representative, agent or special guest if it is duly satisfied that the observer, media representative, agent or special guest has engaged in any

activity in contravention of the Act, other laws or applicable regulations. The decision shall be made by the entire board of Commissioners.

13.2. Any observer, media representative, agent or special guest aggrieved by such a decision of the NEC, another body as envisaged in section 3.1 of this Regulation, may appeal such revocation as well as a decision on rejecting the accreditation to the Competent Court within two (2) working days from the moment he or she received the decision on rejection or revocation of accreditation.

Section 14 Accreditation cards

14.1. The accreditation cards will have the following details:

- a. NEC logo;
- b. Electoral Event;
- c. Name of the observer, media representative, agent or special guest;
- d. Type of the accreditation card holder;
- e. Name of the organization, political party/coalition or independent candidate s/he represents;
- f. Date of expiration of the accreditation (no earlier than the deadline for publication of final election results);
- g. NEC official stamp;
- h. Serial number of the accreditation card.

14.2. The NEC may issue color-coded cards based on the type of accreditation as citizen observers, international observers, agents, media representatives, and special guests and may introduce a QR code to each accreditation card.

Section 15 Rights and Responsibilities of Observers

15.1. Accredited election observers have the right to:

- a. Observe, without any hindrance, all phases of the preparation and conduct of the electoral or referendum process, including voter registration, candidate nomination, election campaign, opening of polling stations, polling and counting of votes, aggregation proceedings at all levels, declaration of results and election dispute resolution process;
- b. Request and obtain copies of decisions, protocols, minutes and other electoral documents during the entire process, including before and after election day;
- c. Attend court hearings and obtain copies of relevant court decisions;
- d. Assess the electoral process and issue public statements and reports presenting their findings, conclusions and recommendations;
- e. Bring irregularities to the attention of election officials but not give instructions or countermand decisions of the election officials;
- f. Enjoy freedom of movement throughout the country without the need for prior authorization or notification.

15.2. Accredited election observers have the duty to:

- a. Respect the laws of the country and the NEC regulations and follow any lawful instructions of the government, security and election authorities;
- b. Familiarise themselves with the electoral legal framework ;
- c. Carry and visibly display their accreditation card when engaging in observation activities and identify themselves upon request by the national authorities;
- d. Behave with neutrality at all times and refrain from engaging in any activity that could be reasonably perceived as favouring or providing partisan gain for any political party, coalition or candidate;
- e. Conduct their duties without interfering in or disrupting the electoral process;
- f. Refrain from wearing distinctive signs that might serve as means of propaganda or might influence the voters' choice or identify with a particular political party, coalition or candidate;

Section 16

Rights and Responsibilities of Political Party, Coalition and Independent Candidate Agents

16.1. Accredited political party, coalition and independent candidate agents have the right to:

- a. Observe, without any hindrance, all phases of the preparation and conduct of the electoral or referendum process, including voter registration, candidate nomination, election campaign, opening of polling stations, polling and counting of votes, aggregation proceedings at all levels, declaration of results and election dispute resolution process;
- b. Request and obtain copies of decisions, protocols, minutes and other electoral documents during the entire process, including before and after election day;
- c. Attend court hearings and obtain copies of relevant court decisions;
- d. Submit questions or objections in regard to any violation of applicable rules, regulations and laws to the registration, polling and counting committees;
- e. Assess the electoral process and issue public statements and reports presenting their findings, conclusions and recommendations;
- f. Bring irregularities to the attention of election officials but not give instructions or countermand decisions of the election officials;
- g. Enjoy freedom of movement throughout the country without the need for prior authorization or notification.

16.2. Accredited political party, coalition and independent candidate agents have the duty to:

- a. Respect the laws of the country and the NEC regulations and follow any lawful instructions of the government, security and election authorities;
- g. Familiarise themselves with the electoral legal framework;
- b. Carry their accreditation card when engaging in observation activities and identify themselves upon request by the national authorities;
- c. Conduct their duties without interfering in or disrupting the electoral process;
- d. Not use resources of the NEC and public resources.

Section 17
Rights and Responsibilities of Media Representatives

17.1. Media representatives have the right to:

- a. Seek information, receive it and disseminate it freely, without government interference, free from any harassment, intimidation or hindrance by any kind of public officials by any means whatsoever;
- b. Be present, without any hindrance, during all phases of the preparation and conduct of the electoral or referendum process, including voter registration, candidate nomination, election campaign, opening of polling stations, polling and counting of votes, aggregation proceedings at all levels, declaration of results and election dispute resolution process;
- c. Request and obtain copies of decisions, protocols, minutes and other electoral documents during the entire process, including before and after election day;
- d. Attend court hearings and obtain copies of relevant court decisions;
- e. Enjoy freedom of movement throughout the country without the need for prior authorization or notification;

17.2. Media representatives have the duty to:

- a. Respect the laws of the country and the NEC regulations and follow any lawful instructions of the government, security and election authorities;
- b. Carry their accreditation card when engaging in official duties and identify themselves upon request by the national authorities;
- c. Behave with neutrality at all times and refrain from engaging in any activity that could be reasonably perceived as favouring or providing partisan gain for any political party, coalition or candidate;
- d. Conduct their duties without interfering in or disrupting the electoral process;
- e. Refrain from wearing distinctive signs that might serve as means of propaganda or might influence the voters' choice or identify with a particular political party, coalition or candidate.

17.3. The provisions of this regulation shall not affect, limit or prejudice in any form, the fundamental rights and responsibilities of media representatives as they are protected in the conduct of their duties by the applicable legal framework.

Section 18
Adoption and Entry into Force

This Regulation shall be adopted in accordance with the Second Schedule of the National Elections Act, 2012 (Amendment) Act, 2023 and enter into force immediately upon publication on the NEC 's official website.

Signatures of NEC Commissioners adopting this Regulation:

1. Hon. Professor Abednego Akok Kacuol Tong
Chairperson, NEC

Akok

2. Hon. Gabriel Gabriel Deng
Deputy Chairperson, NEC

G.Deng

3. Hon. Mac Maika Deng
Chief Electoral Officer, NEC

Maika

4. Hon. William Kolnyin Deng Deng
Commissioner, NEC

William

5. Hon. Amos Juma Ochieng Odek
Commissioner, NEC

Amos 04/12/2024

1. Hon. Manuel Makum Matuop Thian
Commissioner, NEC

Manuel

2. Hon. George Lemi Stans Yatta
Commissioner, NEC

George 04/12/2024

3. Hon. Thabo Abosuh Ajang Alijok
Commissioner, NEC

Thabo

4. Hon. Sarah Daniel Gatluak Lul
Commissioner, NEC

Sarah

Date: 4/12/2024

Annex 1

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OBSERVERS

1. Observers shall maintain strict impartiality in the conduct of their duties and shall at no time, publicly express or exhibit any bias or preference in relation to national authorities, political parties, coalitions, candidates, or with reference to any issues related to the election or referendum process.
2. Observers shall, while observing the electoral process, visibly display accreditation cards and shall identify themselves to any authority upon request.
3. Observers shall undertake their duties in an unobtrusive manner, respect the secrecy of vote and not interfere in the electoral process. Observers may raise questions with election officials and bring irregularities to their attention, but they must not give instructions or influence their decisions.
4. Observers shall comply with all national laws and NEC regulations.
5. Observers have the right to observe without any hindrance, all phases of the preparation and conduct of the electoral or referendum process, including registration of voters, candidate nomination and registration, campaigning, opening of polling stations, polling, sorting and counting of votes, all aggregation proceedings, declaration of results and election dispute resolution process.
6. Observers shall not display or wear any partisan symbols, colours or banners that might serve as means of propaganda or might influence the voters' choice or identify with a particular political party, coalition or candidate.
7. Observers shall exhibit the highest levels of personal discretion and professional behaviour at all times.
8. Observers shall base all conclusions on well documented, factual and verifiable evidence and will keep a record of the polling stations and other relevant places they visited. They may issue statements and reports regarding their observations.
9. Observers have the right to obtain copies of decisions, protocols, minutes and other electoral documents during the entire election processes, including processes before and after election day.
10. Observers shall enjoy freedom of movement throughout the country without prior notice.

Signature _____

Annex 2

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR AGENTS

1. Agents shall act conscientiously and objectively in the exercise of their duties.
2. Agents shall comply with all national laws and NEC regulations.
3. Agents shall respect the secrecy of the vote and must not interfere in the electoral process and the work of the election officials during the conduct of their duties.
4. Agents shall, while monitoring the electoral process, visibly display accreditation cards and shall identify themselves to any authority upon request.
5. Agents have the right to submit a question or objection in regard to any violation of applicable rules, regulations and law to the registration, polling and sorting committees.
6. Agents shall refrain from submitting complaints in bad faith or with the purpose of obstructing the electoral process.
7. Agents shall not engage in violence or intimidation or use of language that might lead to violence or intimidation of voters, party or candidate agents or any other electoral stakeholders.
8. Agents shall not force a voter to reveal the identity of the political party/candidate for whom s/he voted or use violence, threats or illegal pressure to force a voter to refrain from voting or bribe a voter to exercise his or her right to vote in a particular manner.
9. Agents shall exhibit the highest levels of personal discretion and professional behavior at all times.

Signature _____

Annex 3

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

1. Accredited media representatives shall maintain strict impartiality in the conduct of their duties and shall, at no time, publicly express or exhibit any bias or preference in relation to national authorities, political parties, coalitions, candidates, or with reference to any issues related to the election or referendum process.
2. Accredited media representatives shall, during the conduct of their duties, visibly display accreditation cards and shall identify themselves to any authority upon request.
3. Accredited media representatives shall undertake their duties in an unobtrusive manner, respect the secrecy of vote and not interfere in the electoral process.
4. Accredited media representatives shall comply with all national laws and NEC regulations.
5. Accredited media representatives have the right to be present without any hindrance, and report on all phases of the preparation and conduct of the electoral or referendum process, including registration of voters, candidate nomination and registration, campaigning, opening of polling stations, polling, sorting and counting of votes, all aggregation proceedings, declaration of results and election dispute resolution process.
6. Accredited media representatives shall not display or wear any partisan symbols, colours or banners that might serve as means of propaganda or might influence the voters' choice or identify with a particular political party, coalition or candidate.
7. Accredited media representatives shall exhibit the highest levels of personal discretion and professional behaviour at all times.
8. Accredited media representatives have the right to obtain copies of decisions, protocols, minutes and other electoral documents during the entire election processes, including processes before and after election day.
9. Accredited media representatives shall enjoy freedom of movement throughout the country without prior notice.

Signature _____

Annex 4

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPECIAL GUESTS

1. Special guests shall maintain strict impartiality in the conduct of their duties and shall at no time, publicly express or exhibit any bias or preference in relation to national authorities, political parties, coalitions, candidates, or with reference to any issues related to the election or referendum process.
2. Special guests shall, while witnessing the electoral process, visibly display accreditation cards and shall identify themselves to any authority upon request.
3. Special guests shall undertake their duties in an unobtrusive manner, respect the secrecy of vote and not interfere in the electoral process. Special guests may raise questions with election officials and bring irregularities to their attention, but they must not give instructions or influence their decisions.
4. Special guest shall comply with all national laws and NEC regulations.
5. Special guests have the right to witness without any hindrance, all phases of the preparation and conduct of the electoral or referendum process, including registration of voters, candidate nomination and registration, campaigning, opening of polling stations, polling, sorting and counting of votes, all aggregation proceedings, declaration of results and dispute resolution process.
6. Special guests shall not display or wear any partisan symbols, colours or banners that might serve as means of propaganda or might influence the voters' choice or identify with a particular political party, coalition or candidate.
7. Special guests shall exhibit the highest levels of personal discretion and professional behaviour at all times.
8. Special guests shall not issue statements, reports or recommendations on the quality of the electoral process.
9. Special guests have the right to obtain copies of decisions, protocols, minutes and other electoral documents during the entire election processes, including processes before and after election day.
10. Special guests shall enjoy freedom of movement throughout the country without prior notice.

Signature _____