

**No. 46/STAE/2009**

**REGULATION ON PRESENTATION OF CANDIDACIES FOR  
COMMUNITY LEADERS**

In compliance with subparagraph 5 of article 21 of Law No. 3/2009 on Community Leaders and Their Election, the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration proposes the following for approval by the National Electoral Commission:

**CHAPTER I  
SCOPE AND CANDIDACIES**

**Article 1  
Scope**

1. The present regulation shall establish the norms relating to presentation of candidacies for the election of community leaders as well as the rules for filing claims or appeals at that stage of the electoral process.

**Article 2**

1. For the purpose of the election of community leaders, STAE shall accept candidacies submitted by complete lists which include the alternate candidates and indicate the following:

- a) One Suco Chief;
- b) One Chief for each Hamlet composing the Suco;
- c) Two representatives of women;
- d) Two youths, a male and a female, aged between 17 and 30 years;
- e) One male or female senior citizen aged over 60 years;
- f) One alternate candidate for each position.

2. The *Lian Nain* shall not be part of the list of candidacy, but shall be chosen during the first meeting of the Suco Council following the inauguration of the candidates winning the election.

#### **Article 4 Presentation of Lists of Candidacies**

1. Candidacies shall be presented to the representative of STAE on the day of the community meeting scheduled for such purpose.

2. In order for it to be considered valid, the lists shall:

- a) Be complete, with candidates for all members of the Suco Council and respective alternate members, except the *Lian Nain*;
- b) Contain a candidacy statement with the signature, or the fingerprint, of each candidate and alternate candidate in which they solemnly state their will to run in the elections and their adherence to the code of conduct. They shall also state that they are not barred by any ineligibility and that they are not running in more than one list.
- c) Be subscribed by at least 1 percent of the voters of the Suco or, in a Suco containing less than three thousand voters, by a minimum of thirty signatures.

3. All candidates and alternate candidates contained in the lists shall mandatorily be present at the community meeting and shall produce their updated voter identification card to the STAE representative present at the meeting on pain of their candidacy being rejected.

4. Only candidates having passive electoral capacity and who do not incur in any legal incompatibility or have any limit to candidacy shall be able to run.

#### **Article 5 Candidacy statement**

1. A candidacy statement shall have the following elements in conformity with the voter identification card:

- a) Full name;
- b) Number of the voter identification card;
- c) sex;
- d) Date and place of birth;
- e) Profession;
- f) District, sub-district, Suco and Hamlet of residence of the candidate;
- g) Signature or fingerprint.

2. In the case of illiterate candidates, the STAE representative shall assist in the drafting of the candidacy statement, which shall contain the fingerprint of the candidate and a mention that he or she is illiterate.

3. The contents of the statement shall be read out in the community meeting.

### **Article 6** **Claims on the Lists of Candidacies**

1. The provisional list of candidacies accepted shall be published at the Suco head office within a period of four days from the date of the community meeting.

2. Any voter may file claims with the STAE representative at the district level against the published lists within a period of 48 hours from their publication.

3. STAE shall decide within 48 hours on any claim filed.

4. STAE's decision on any claims filed shall be communicated to CNE with copy of the decision rendered.

5. STAE's decision shall be appealed within 48 hours to CNE, which shall decide within 72 hours.

**Article 7**  
**Irregularities in the process**

1. Should there be any irregularities in the lists, STAE representatives shall notify the candidates to correct them within 48 hours from the community meeting.

2. Lists of candidacies containing irregularities that have not been remedied pursuant to the preceding paragraph shall be rejected.

**Article 8**  
**Picture**

The pictures of the candidates and alternate candidates shall be taken by STAE after the community meeting on a date and venue to be determined by STAE by means of a Notice posted at the Suco head office.

**Article 9**  
**Publicity of lists of selected candidates**

1. Once the candidacies have been reviewed and accepted, STAE shall publish the lists of candidacies as broken down by Suco.

2. The lists shall be disseminated by STAE as widely as possible, and shall also be posted at the Suco head office, in conformity with the electoral calendar.

**CHAPTER II**  
**COMMUNITY MEETING**

**Article 10**  
**Venue and date**

1. It shall be incumbent upon STAE to determine the venue and date for the community meeting, with preference being given to the Suco head office.

2. Where there is no Suco head office or where it is inconvenient to use it, STAE shall select another venue, avoiding the use privately-owned houses, and shall inform CNE and the district administration of its decision.

### **Article 11**

#### **Community meeting**

1. STAE shall, with the assistance of the District Administration and the entities and institutions designated by it, promote an awareness campaign in conformity with the electoral calendar to inform the voters on the community meeting and the requirements that the lists of candidacies for Suco Chief and Suco Council Members must meet.

2. STAE must inform the population on the date and venue for the community meeting at least five days in advance.

3. The information referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be announced in public places of the Suco and shall be accessible to Suco voters.

4. At the community meeting the STAE representative shall provide an explanation on the reasons for the meeting and on who may be candidate.

### **Article 12**

#### **Absence of candidacies**

In case of absence of candidacies or of lists meeting the necessary requirements, STAE shall determine a new community meeting after one week from the date of the first community meeting.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 13**

#### **Revocations**

Regulation No. 182/2004 of 22 October on presentation of candidacies for the election of Suco Chiefs and Suco Councils is hereby revoked.

### **Article 14**

#### **Electoral offences**

Electoral offenses shall be those contained in the applicable Criminal Code.

**Article 15**  
**Entry into force**

The present regulation shall enter into force on the day after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Dili, 22 July 2009.

**Tomás do Rosário Cabral**

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**Director**

Approved by the National Electoral Commission on 22 July 2009.

For publication

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