



## **Directive on Accreditation Procedure for International Election Observers**

**The National Electoral Board has issued this Directive, in conformity with Article 102 of the Federal Constitution, Proclamation No. 111/1995 (as amended) and international guidelines governing the conduct of election observers, with the view to enabling the conduct of free and fair elections in Federal and State constituencies and creating a conducive environment for observers to closely follow up the conduct of elections in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.**

### **1. Scope**

**This Directive shall apply to all international election observers.**

### **2. International Election Observers**

**"International election observer" refers to representative of a state or an international organization who is invited by the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to observe elections in Ethiopia. It does not include members of diplomatic missions accredited to Ethiopia.**

### **3. Accreditation**

**An international election observer shall be accredited by the Secretariat of the National Electoral Board, hereinafter referred to as the "Secretariat" to observe the elections in Ethiopia.**

#### **4. Criteria for Accreditation**

- a. Invited state or international organizations shall declare the names, address, nationality, national identification card/passports, occupation and other details of members of their election observer mission as specified under the Accreditation Form annexed to this Directive.**
- b. If the observer represents an organization, his or her organization's application shall provide the following information:**
  - i. a copy of its constitution;**
  - ii. affirmation that it has the capacity to carry out the intended observation as regards finance and logistics;**
  - iii. affirmation that the organization, its official and proposed election observers are impartial and non-partisan as regards the whole election process;**
  - iv. affirmation that the organization as well as an election observer nominated by it shall comply with lawful instructions issued by the National Electoral Board;**

- v. **obligation that the organization will furnish the National Electoral Board, upon application or shortly after, with names, national ID Numbers, address and other details of the proposed election observers.**
  
- c. **The aforementioned provision shall also apply, as the case may be, to foreign observers representing a State.**
  
- d. **Observers shall affirm their commitment to professionalism, independence, non-partisanship, objectivity and respect for this Directive throughout the election process.**

## **5. Accreditation and Issuance of an Identification Card**

- a. **Upon the acceptance of accreditation by the Secretariat, the election observer shall be issued with an accreditation paper and an identification card or badge.**
  
- b. **The accreditation identification card shall be returned to the Secretariat as soon as the mission of the election observer is completed as per the election schedule established by the National Electoral Board.**

**This Directive is issued on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2005**

**National Electoral Board of the  
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia  
Addis Ababa**