ANNEX

to the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan

No. 1067 dated April 14, 2021

**REGULATION**

**on the procedure for collection of signatures in support of the nominated candidate for the Presidency of the Republic of Uzbekistan and verification of accuracy** **of signature sheets**

This Regulation determines the procedures for collection of signatures of the nominated by political parties candidate for the Presidency of the Republic of Uzbekistan and verification of accuracy of signature sheets (hereinafter – signature sheet) in accordance with Articles 38 and 39 of Electoral Code (hereinafter – Electoral Code) of the Republic of Uzbekistan by the Central Election Commission (hereinafter – CEC) of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

**Charter I. Collection of signatures by political parties**

1. Political party that is allowed to participate in the elections shall support a candidate nominated for the Presidency of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter – candidate) and must collect signatures of at least one percent of the total number of voters in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Political party may collect no more than eight percent of the total number of signatures in one administrative-territorial unit (Republic of Karakalpakstan, region, Tashkent city).

2. Political party has the right to collect signatures of the voters in support of a candidate only after its authorized representative is issued a certificate of registration by the CEC. Signatures collected up to this date shall not be counted.

3.  CEC shall issue the forms of signature sheets in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation to the authorized representative of the political party for collection the signatures of voters. Signature sheet forms shall be printed by the CEC in a form of a two-sided document. Signature sheet forms shall be issued to each political party in the amount of 1.4% of the total number of voters in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Additional signature sheet forms may be issued to collect signatures at the request of political parties.

4. Responsible individuals from members of district, city councils and executive committees of political parties or staff of district and city offices of political parties shall be appointed to organize collection of signatures. Leaders of primary organizations of political parties may also arrange collection of signatures.

5. Voters have the right to sign in support of one or more candidates.

In this case, the voter shall indicate his last name, first name, and patronymic, year of birth (if he/she is eighteen, date and month of birth), address of residence, serial number of passport or ID card as well as the date of signing.

This information shall be entered manually. Information about the voter, who puts his/her signature on the signature sheet, may be entered by the individual who collects signatures at the request of the voter. However, the voter shall personnaly put his/her signature.

6. Collection of voters' signatures shall be carried out at work, service, study, residence, election events and in other places where campaigning and signature collection are not prohibited by law.

Any form of coercion and persuasion of voters by an individual who collects signatures shall entail liability established by law.

7. Signature sheet shall be signed by the individual who collected the signature indicating his last name, first name, and patronymic and stamped by the head of the district, city department of the appropriate political party.

8. Authorized representative of the political party shall submit attached signature sheets for the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regions and Tashkent city to the CEC after completion of the signature collection.

**Charter II. Verification of accuracy of signature sheets**

9. Signatures of at least one percent of the total amount of voters must be submitted to the CEC for verification. If political parties collected more than one percent of the total amount of signatures, the remaining signature sheets shall be left as a reserve in the political party.

10. Accuracy of signature sheets submitted by political parties shall be verified by CEC within five days.

11. CEC shall inform the political parties in advance about the place and time of verification.

12. Authorized representatives of political parties shall attend process of verification of accuracy of signature sheets by CEC.

13. CEC may establish an Expert Group (hereinafter – Expert Group) to verify accuracy of signature sheets. The expert group will include experts from law enforcement agencies, justice departments and graphologists and representatives of civil society institutions.

14. At least fifteen percent of the required amount of voters' signatures and relevant information on voters, who sign signature sheets, shall be verified.

15. Signatures of voters in support of each candidate shall be selected in equal amounts and in equal proportions from each administrative-territorial unit (Republic of Karakalpakstan, region, Tashkent city) for verification.

16. Members of Expert Group for verification of signature sheets shall:

observe professional etiquette;

perform duties assigned to them objectively, conscientiously and qualitatively within the limits of their official powers established by the legislation and internal documents;

comply with the rules established by the CEC for provision of information and service information.

17. Members of the expert group shall review each signature sheet ensuring that signature sheets are filled correctly, reviewing made corrections, deleted corrections, whether sheets are filled by different individuals, whether there are similar signatures, and that there are approved corrections.

18. Signature sheets that are found to be defective or suspicious during a visual inspection shall be set aside for deeper inspection using special tools.

19. The following signatures shall be considered invalid:

signatures collected before issuance of a certificate of registration by the CEC to the authorized representative of a political party;

signatures on the signature sheet without entering information about the voter by the voter himself/herself or by the responsible individual who collected the voters' signatures;

signatures of non-voting individuals;

signatures without any information that has to be indicated on the signature sheet including signatures without indication of date;

signatures on behalf of another individuals;

signatures on that are put on signature lists that are different from the sheets issued by the CEC;

signature of the voter and information about him/her are put by a pencil or other means that are not considered as a writing instrument;

signatures with corrections to the information shall be indicated on the signature sheet, if these corrections have not been confirmed by the voter or the individuals approving the signature sheet with an additional signature.

20. If CEC detects that more than quarter of signature sheets that are selected and checked by CEC are prepared in violation of the law:

these signature sheets shall be returned to the authorized representative of the political party and he/she shall eliminate the shortcomings within two days;

all signature sheets submitted by political party to CEC shall be checked.

21. If a political party does not eliminate shortcomings on the signature sheets within two days or if additional signature sheets are not submitted, signature sheets considered as valid among all signature sheets shall be accepted.

22. Signature sheets where shortcomings are eliminated (collected additionally) and submitted to CEC shall be thoroughly inspected and accuracy shall be determined.

23. Signature sheets considered valid and submitted in advance and additionally in accordance with the Article 20 and 22 of the this Regulation shall be added.

CEC shall refuse to register a candidate nominated by the political party if the number of signatures of the supporting voters is less than one percent of the total amount of voters and these signature sheets are considered invalid.

24. Expert Group shall draw up a conclusive statement (hereinafter – conclusive statement) on the results of verification of accuracy of signature sheets in support of the candidate for each political party upon completion of verification of the signature sheets that are submitted. The following shall be shown:

number of signature sheets that are signed and submitted by voters;

number of verified signatures of voters;

number of invalid signatures of voters.

25. Conclusive statement cannot be filled by pencil and no corrections are allowed.

26. Copy of the conclusive statement shall be given to the authorized representative of the political party.

27. Conclusive statements of the Expert Group shall serve as a basis for making an appropriate decision by the CEC.

28. Re-verification of signatures shall be conducted in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan after the decision of the CEC about refusal in registration of a candidate for Presidency of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

**Charter III. Final rules**

29. CEC shall make a decision one of the followings in accordance with Article 64 of the Electoral Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan based on a conclusive decision of an Expert Group:

registration of a candidate – if the documents submitted by the political party meet the requirements of law;

refusal to register a candidate – if the documents submitted by the political party do not meet requirements of law.

30. Decisions of the CEC may be appealed to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan within five days from the date of their adoption.

ANNEX

to the Regulation on the procedure for collection of signatures in support of the nominated candidate for the Presidency of the Republic of Uzbekistan and verification of accuracy of signature sheets

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Front side | | | | | | |
| **Symbol of Political party**  **SIGNATURE SHEET**  **in support of the nominated candidate for the Presidency of the Republic of Uzbekistan** | | | | | | |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (name of administrative-territorial unit where signatures are collected) | | | | | | |
| We, the signatories below, on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | | | | | |
| (name of political party) | | | | | | |
| support the candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (*last name, first name and patronymic of a candidate*)  for the Presidency of the Republic of Uzbekistan | | | | | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **#** | **Last name, first name, patronymic of the voter** | **Year of birth**  ***(if 18, date and month of birth)*** | **Residence**  ***(address)*** | **Serial number of passport or ID card** | **Signature and date of signing** | | **1.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **2.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **3.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **4.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **5.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **6.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **7.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **8.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **9.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **10.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **11.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **12.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **13.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **14.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **15.** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **16.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **17.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **18.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **19.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **20.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **21.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **22.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **23.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **24.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **25.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **26.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **27.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **28.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **29.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **30.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **31.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **32.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **33.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **34.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **35.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **36.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **37.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **38.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **39.** |  |  |  |  |  | | **40.** |  |  |  |  |  |   Back side | | | | | | |
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**Total number of signatures \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(*Last name, first name, patronymic, residence, serial number of passport or ID card and signature of an individual who collected the signatures of the voters*)

Stamp

The signature sheet is approved by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(Last name, first name, patronymic and signature of the head of*

*district, city branch of the political party)*