ANNEX 1

to Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 952 dd October 5, 2019

**REGULATION**

**on the Procedure for Accreditation of Representatives of Media during the Election Campaign**

This Regulation shall determine, in accordance with the Electoral Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as the Electoral Code), the Laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Mass Media”, “Principles and Guarantees of Freedom of Information”, the procedure for accreditation of representatives of foreign and local mass media (hereinafter referred to as the media) to cover the election campaign to the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as the Legislative Chamber) and regional, district and city kengashes of People's Deputies (hereinafter referred to as the local Kengash).

**Chapter I. General Provisions**

1. Representatives of the mass media shall be accredited for the wide, prompt and free dissemination of objective information, as well as for the organization of their activities in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan during the election campaign.

The powers of media representatives must be confirmed by certificates issued by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as the CEC), regional, district and city election commissions.

2. Representatives of the mass media may apply to the CEC, regional, district and city election commissions for accreditation from the date of the official announcement of the start of the election campaign until at least ten days left to election.

*(Paragraph 2 as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1077 of July 2, 2021)*

3. Representatives of the media accredited by the CEC, regional, district and city election commissions shall be issued certificates in accordance with Annexes 1 and 2 to this Regulation, respectively.

4. The term of powers of media representatives shall begin from the date of issuance of the certificate of accreditation and shall end on the day of official announcement of the election results.

In the event the relevant election commission decides to hold repeat voting or repeat elections, the validity of the media representative's certificate shall be deemed extended until a decision is adopted on the results of repeat voting or repeat elections.

**Chapter II. Accreditation of Local Media Representatives**

5. Representatives of the media covering the elections during the election campaign of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be accredited by the CEC.

During the election campaign to the Legislative Chamber, local Kengashes, the accreditation shall be done with respect to representatives of mass media covering elections:

on the republic level- by the CEC;

on the regional level - by the regional election commission;

on the district (city) level - by the district (city) election commission.

Certificates issued to media representatives accredited to cover election activities at the regional, district (city) level shall be valid within the relevant territory.

*(Item 5 as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1077 of July 2, 2021)*

6. In order to cover the election campaign, the heads of the mass media of the republic, regional, district and city levels shall apply to the election commissions provided for in paragraph 5 of this Regulation.

The application of the media shall indicate the last name, first name, patronymic and position of the employee who is submitted for accreditation, and be accompanied by copy of his / her identity document and two photographs of size 3x4 sm.

The application for accreditation of a media representative shall be submitted on an official letter of media and confirmed by the signature of the Head.

7. The application shall be considered within five days and a certificate of accreditation shall be issued to the media representative on the basis of the decision of the relevant election commission.

The relevant election commissions may deny accreditation of a media representative if the information specified in paragraph 6 of this Regulation is not provided, as well as if the appeals are not submitted within the established time limit.

**Chapter III. Procedure for Accreditation of Foreign Media Representatives**

8. Representatives of foreign media in the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Legislative Chamber shall be accredited by the CEC.

The CEC shall cooperate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) in accrediting foreign media representatives.

9. For accreditation by the CEC of foreign media representatives accredited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the head of the relevant media correspondent point (bureau, office) shall apply to the CEC.

The application shall indicate the last name, first name, patronymic and position of the employee submitted for accreditation, and be accompanied by a copy of his / her identity document and two photographs of 3x4 sm size.

The application shall be considered within five days and a certificate of accreditation issued to the foreign media representative on the basis of the CEC decision.

10. Representatives of foreign media not accredited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall apply to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for coverage of the election campaign. Application shall be accompanied by:

reference information on mass media;

biographical data of the employee submitted for accreditation, a copy of his identity document and two photographs of 3x4 sm size.

11. Applications of foreign media representatives not accredited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall be considered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs no later than two weeks after the date of submission of application. The applications which do not indicate information specified in paragraph 10 of this Regulation, as well as the applications which are not submitted within the prescribed time limit, shall not be considered.

12. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall submit a proposal to the CEC on accreditation of foreign media representatives.

The proposal shall be considered within five days and a certificate of accreditation shall be issued to the foreign media representative on the basis of the CEC decision.

**Chapter IV. Rights and Obligations of Media Representative**

13. Media representative shall have the right:

to carry out coverage of all activities related to the preparation and conduct of elections;

to be present at meetings of election commissions;

to receive copies of decisions of election commissions for media coverage;

to participate in meetings dedicated to the nomination of candidates, meetings of candidates with voters;

to be informed about the time and place of early voting and to observe this process;

to be present in the polling stations on election day, including during the counting of votes;

to make photographs, videos and audio recordings without violating the secrecy of the electoral process and voting (except for places of detention and imprisonment, military units, medical institutions);

to be present during the voting at the place of the residence of the voter with the permission of the voter;

to be present during receive of protocols on the results of counting of votes from precinct election commissions by respective constituency, district, city election commissions (except for Tashkent city election commission) and in determining the election results in the constituency;

*(Paragraph 10 of item 13 as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1077 of July 2, 2021)*

to express their views on the preparation and conduct of elections.

A media representative shall enjoy other rights in accordance with the legislative acts.

14. Media representative shall be obliged:

to comply in his/her activities with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Electoral Code, resolutions of the Central Election Commission;

carry with him the certificate issued to him/her and identity document, and present them upon requirements of officials when visiting election commissions of all levels, public authorities and other organizations.

15. The following shall be prohibited for a media representative:

dissemination of information aimed at forcible change of the constitutional order, opposing to the sovereignty, integrity and security of the republic, constitutional rights and freedoms of citizens, propaganda of war, social, national, racial and religious hatred, encroachment on the health and spirituality of the people;

influencing voters, illegally distributing any campaign material or literature;

to be present in the voting booth or room when a voter puts his mark on the ballot paper;

to ask voters who they voted for or to provide any assistance to voters in marking the ballot;

interference in the activities of the precinct election commission, including during the sealing, opening and counting of ballot boxes;

to publish the results of public opinion polls, forecasts of election results, and other research related to the forthcoming elections on election day and the day before the start of voting.

16. If a media representative does not comply with the requirements of the Electoral Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the provisions of this Regulation, the election commission which accredited him / her may terminate his / her powers ahead of schedule.

**Chapter V. Final Provisions**

17. This Regulation is agreed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Agency for Information and Mass Communications under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

ANNEX 1

to Regulation on the procedure for accreditation of representatives of media during the election campaign

**SAMPLE OF CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION OF A MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE**

*(name of elections and date)*

CERTIFICATE № \_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(*name of media*)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(*position of media representative*)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(*last name*)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(name)*

**Chair of the Central**

**Election Commission** *SEAL*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 *(signature)*

Valid when an identity document is presented.

PHOTO

**Note:** The state symbols of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the logo of the Central Election Commission, as well as various decorations and colors can be used in the preparation of the certificate.

The certificate is prepared 140 mm long and 100 mm wide, in two-sided writing, one side in Uzbek, the other side in Russian or one side in Uzbek and the other side in English.

*(Text of Annex 1 as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1077 of July 2, 2021)*

ANNEX 2

to Regulation on the procedure for accreditation of representatives of media during the election campaign

**SAMPLE OF CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION OF A MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE**

*(name of elections and date)*

CERTIFICATE № \_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(*name of media*)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(*position of media representative*)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(*last name*)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(name)*

**Chair of the Regional (district/city)**

**Election Commission** *SEAL*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 *(signature)*

Valid when an identity document is presented.

PHOTO

**Note:** The state symbols of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as various decorations and colors can be used in the preparation of the certificate.

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*(Text of Annex 1 as amended by the Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1077 of July 2, 2021)*