



THE CENTRAL COMMISSION ON
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The CEC has launched an automated system of candidates and political parties electoral funds transparency

The CEC Control and Audit Group (CAG) informs that as part of the Electoral Process Financial Transparency Action Plan, the **"Financial Transparency" (hereinafter AIS FT) candidates and political parties electoral funds transparency automated information system** has been developed and put into operation.

Pursuant to the legislation, candidates and political parties establish their electoral funds to finance their election campaigns. Election funds' assets are credited to special accounts of banking institutions and can be formed from:

- own funds of the candidate, political party;
- voluntary donations of citizens and legal entities, except for prohibited donations that include anonymous donations.

Financial assets of electoral funds may be used only to cover the expenses associated with election campaign. All payments between a candidate, political party and private persons, legal entities for performing works/providing services shall be made on a contractual basis and **with noncash settlement only**.

The standard of the electoral process financial transparency implemented at the CEC is to display through the "Financial Transparency" AIS FT on the CEC official website accurate detailed information on receipt and expenditure of candidates and political parties' election funds in the format:

- *when, from whom, how much money was transferred to the special account,*

- *when, to whom, for what goods and services and how much was spent.*

The information received from banking institutions through the system of "Tiundiuk" interagency electronic interaction system is automatically displayed on the CEC website on the page "Talapker / Electoral Fund".

The information is posted due to the legislation on personal data and banking secrecy (i.e. with the depositor's consent for data open publication).

The CEC Control and Audit Group (CAG) monitors and analyzes received banking information within the scope of its powers.

The subject of the CAG's control is:

- subjects of money contributions (allowed, prohibited) to the election funds of candidates and political parties,
- the limits of amounts for receipts and expenditures from each entity (because there are clear limits on the amounts allowed for each object),
- the timing of financial transactions.

All transactions are subject to verification for the presence of payment codes, full description of the purpose of payments, exclusion of anonymous donations from unidentified subjects.

The CEC AIS FT capabilities allow identifying each sender and recipient of funds

To this date, as a result of the analysis conducted by the CAG,

violations on overstating the limits of donations receipt as candidates' own funds and voluntary donations from legal entities and private persons, violations on incomplete filling the "purpose of payment" field, absence of National Payment Transactions Classifier (NPTC) payment code etc. have been recorded.

In order to eliminate all shortcomings, candidates and political parties are provided with information on the rules on establishing and expenditure of election funds, settlements with private persons and legal entities on a contractual basis, on the rules of filling out payment orders, as well as with consultations on the use of payment codes.

The CEC has trained district and constituency election commissions on targeted expenditure of funds allocated from the central government budget

The Central Commission on Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic has conducted training on the procedure of accounting and reporting on the money allocated from the central government budget by district and constituency election commissions.

The training was arranged for chairmen, secretaries, special representatives and accountants of district election commissions following the results of the audit on target spending of funds allocated from the central government budget to election commissions for the preparation to and holding elections in 2020-2021.

The participants were explained the issues concerning the financing of

election campaign that meet the principles of openness and financial transparency. The accountants and chairmen of constituency election commissions were informed that the cost estimates for the elections of deputies to the Djogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic scheduled for November 28th, 2021, were made given the most necessary activities to organize the process.

The expenses of election commissions on the activities related to the preparation to and holding elections are made at the expense of the central government budget in accordance with the procedures adopted by the legislation. The CEC has made a detailed estimate of expenses taking into account only the measures necessary for the process organization, applying the norms, coefficients, limits, rates established by the legal acts of the Kyrgyz Republic for the organizational works/services. To improve the financial transparency the CEC has elaborated new approaches to accounting and reporting on the funds allocated from the budget that include the transfer of funds to lower level election commissions only under the protected items of expenditure: salaries, contributions to the Social Fund, expenses for official trips, purchase of other goods and services (training expenses: food, per diem).

During the training it was explained that for cash execution of the budget territorial subdivisions of the Central Treasury of the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic open temporary treasury accounts for expenditures of central government budget for DEC/TECs.

Payments are made with cashless settlement. Unused balances of the budget funds held by DEC/TECs

are to be returned to central government budget.

The DEC/TECs shall be liable for non-performance or improper performance of their powers in accordance with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The CEC of Russia: maximum assistance will be provided in organizing voting at polling stations in cities Russia

A meeting was held between the Central Commission for Elections and Referend of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation on rendering assistance in organizing the elections of deputies to the Djogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic at polling stations incites of Russia.

The meeting was attended by Mme N. Shayldabekova, Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. N. Bulayev, Deputy Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation, representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, members of the Central Election Commission of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation as well as representatives of state bodies of the subjects of the Russian Federation, election commissions of polling stations in Russia.

In the course of the meeting the issues of providing voting premises, equipment and voting booths, uninterrupted provision of electricity and Internet, ensuring public order and fire safety on the voting day were discussed. The assistance to election commissions in case of quarantine restrictions in some

constituent entities of the Russian Federation was discussed.

Mr. N. Bulaev, Deputy Chairman of the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation, has ordered to provide maximum assistance to the Kyrgyz party in organizing and holding parliamentary elections.

N. Shayldabekova, Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of the Kyrgyz Republic informed that within the framework of the preparation to and holding parliamentary elections "mobile groups" were sent from the staff of the Central Election Commission, SRS, MFA of the Kyrgyz Republic to work with fellow countrymen abroad. These groups hold outreach activities on the organization of the upcoming parliamentary elections, including the enlistment of citizens to the voter list, addresses and number of polling stations established abroad, consular registration of citizens, biometric registration. Also, online meetings on the preparation to and holding elections with voters abroad are held on a permanent basis through the ZOOM platform.

The CECs of the two countries discussed the mechanisms for prompt addressing of emerging issues on the organization of voting, and the Kyrgyz party expressed its gratitude for the assistance provided.

For reference: with the aim of expanding conditions for ensuring the electoral rights of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic living abroad, within the preparation to the election of deputies to the Djogorku Kenesh the number of polling stations abroad was increased to 59, 21 of them – in cities of Russia.

In the Russian Federation six polling stations are located in Moscow, one polling station each in St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, Novosibirsk, Vladivostok, Krasnoyarsk, Irkutsk, Yakutsk, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Surgut, Tiumen, Krasnodar, Samara, Kazan, Tomsk and Khabarovsk.

The polling stations in Kazan, Krasnodar, Samara, Tomsk and Khabarovsk were established for the first time.

There are currently 75 thousands 651 voters registered to vote who live or stay abroad.

The CEC of the Kyrgyz Republic: the risks of bribery through e-purses and payment terminals, including payments from foreign sources, will be strictly monitored

The CEC with the participation of the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic, commercial banks and the State Financial Intelligence Service held a meeting on interaction against the risks of votes buying through electronic purses.

The meeting addressed the issues of interaction between the agencies to monitor payments through unidentifiable payment systems and measures to eliminate the risks of votes bribery through electronic purses in the course of the upcoming elections of deputies to the Djogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The CEC Control and Audit Group (CAG) carries out the control of establishing and expenditure of assets at election funds of candidates and political parties.

The statutory procedures for keeping **special accounts of electoral funds**

have minimized the risks of funds receipt from unidentified sources or transfer to them – within the framework of electoral funds.

The capabilities of the used for control AIS CEC automated system allow identifying each sender and recipient of assets on the electoral funds accounts.

As to the issue of possible use of e-purses and payment terminals for bribing voters the meeting participants defined that in this case the most probable is the use of unaccounted, "shadow" money (in cash and cashless settlement) utilized apart from the electoral funds' special accounts that among others can be transferred through unidentifiable payment systems that are, for example, payment terminals.

In the course of opinions exchange the meeting participants came to the following decision on identifying possible cases of bribing voters via e-purses:

1. The CEC, National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic, commercial banks, the State Financial Intelligence Service will monitor within the limits of their authorities the bank payments, payments through mobile applications of banking institutions and mobile operators, operators of payment systems in the course of the election period, especially during the 2 weeks before elections (since November 15th to November 28th, 2021) and after elections (since November 29th to December 18th, 2021);
2. To consider as suspicious payments the mass nature of their application (repeated transactions of equal amounts within a short period of time

from the same device, or periodically repeating the same amounts for several days in a row at certain intervals).

The measures taken should become a barrier to attempts by stakeholders to bribe voters, including from foreign sources.

The CEC CAG reminds that according to the Criminal Code of the Kyrgyz Republic:

- **the use of funds outside of electoral funds** is a criminal violation of the procedure of election campaign financing that, among other things, serves as grounds for cancellation of registration of a candidate, lists of candidates;
- **votes bribery** is a criminal offence punishable by a fine up to 260 thousand soms or imprisonment up to 2 years and 6 months.

The meeting was attended by Mme N. Shaildabekova, CEC Chairman, CEC members Mr. I. Gaypkulov, Mr. K. Mamatov, and Mme A. Djupuyeva; Mr. K. Turgunbekov, Chairman of the State Financial Intelligence Service, representatives of the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic, the commercial banks "Kompanion", "Commercial Bank "Kyrgyzstan", "Dos-Kredobank", "RSK Bank" and "Aiyl Bank".

The CEC has trained parties and candidates' observers across the country

The Central Commission on Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic (CEC) jointly with the International Republican Institute (IRI) have held a series of training workshops in 7 regions of

the Kyrgyz Republic for observers from political parties and candidates on "Elections of Deputies to the Djogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic-2021. Election monitoring process by observers from candidates and political parties".

Observers from political parties and candidates received information on the following questions:

- Status of observers from a candidate, political party. The order of registration. Rights and obligations of observers;
- The system of commissions. The lists of voters;
- Voting out of premises;
- Voting day: procedures for opening a polling station, the course of voting during elections of deputies of the Djogorku Kenesh;
- Closing of polling station. Counting of votes;
- Tally of votes. Establishment of results for elections of deputies of the Djogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- The CEC information resources. Channels of communication.

The CEC has conducted a simulation of the voting day

The Central Commission on Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic has arranged a simulation of the election day in the Novopokrovka rural community of the Chui oblast.

The event included the full cycle of the election process that allowed testing the readiness of the software and equipment for the day of voting at the elections of deputies of the Djogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic, scheduled for November 28th, 2021. At the beginning of the event, it was shown how sanitary rules (temperature control, hand

treatment with sanitizer, issuing each voter a protective mask) would be observed on the day of voting.

The media also showed what measures are taken by the CEC to ensure access to polling stations for voters with disabilities (call buttons, ramps, information boards at polling stations are located so as to ensure their accessibility for voters who use wheelchairs or have difficulties in moving independently). A magnifying glass (enlarging lens) and/or Braille stencil are available in all DEC's.

The example of the polling station selected for the simulation showed how voters' awareness would be ensured (distribution of newspapers with information on candidates running for single-mandate districts in this area, placement of information posters, demonstration of informational clips, etc.).

"The CEC has completed the development of a new application for the Polling Station Count Optional Scanners (PCOS) for vote counting as well as the development of software for consolidation of data from all polling stations to the central server and an application for displaying the data have been completed. Today we are just testing this software.

There are 10 days left for the voting day, and the testing of data transfer from polling stations to the central server has been started. Testing will be held for all 10 days before the election day.

The CEC will also conduct a simulation of voting in Kara-Suu town; in parallel, it will be tested an application ensuring the cyber security for the use of all technical means within the electoral process. I

hope that the adopted measures will be able to ensure reliability and smooth operation of data summary software, voting results counting and secure signal transmission software," Mme N. Shaildabekova, CEC Chairwoman, has informed.

The observers from candidates and political parties, as well as the mass media were presented the stages of elections – the procedures before opening polling stations, organization of voting, closing polling stations and counting of votes.

The first stage included preparations before opening a polling station. The DEC chairperson conducted a drawing of lots, according to which the DEC members were determined who would control an operator's work on the election day and together with making identification of citizens in the electronic voters' list; register citizens in the paper voters' list; issue ballots; supervise the passage of voters to booths for secret voting and placement of ballots to ballot boxes.

The sealed safety locker of the DEC was then opened that contained the voters' list of this constituency, ballots, the seal of the district election commission, documents on the results of outdoor voting, and equipment with the electronic voters' list. The DEC chairperson announced the number of voters on the voters' lists for the constituency.

Observers were able to visually inspect and compare the paper and electronic voters' lists.

The attendees were demonstrated empty ballot boxes (boxes for PCOS) that were sealed with the CEC's seal. Also, the control sheets

were prepared that indicated the number of polling station, time of dropping, names of the DEC's members, candidates present, representatives from candidates and parties. These persons signed the control sheets and the sheets were sealed by the DEC's seal, then the control sheets were dropped into the PCOS' boxes.

Next, the DEC's chairperson announced the number of ballots received from the territorial election commission and how many of them were issued for outdoor voting. The ballots were counted and announced, and observers were able to look at them visually. The number of ballots was recorded to the protocols on voting results and their enlarged copies, handed over under a deed per 100 pieces to the members of the DEC.

Voters who took part in the voting were given per 2 ballot papers each.

On the elections of single mandate electoral district deputies a voter puts on the ballot paper:

- a mark in the box referring to a candidate;
- or the position "Against All".

On the elections of deputies in a single constituency a voter puts:

- in one part of a ballot paper a mark in one box referring to a political party;
- in the other part of the ballot paper a mark in one box pertaining to a candidate's serial number;
- in case if he/she does not make a choice in favor of any political party, he/she puts a mark in the box to the position "Against All".

Observers saw that in a voting booth there were information materials about all candidates, political

parties, in the order determined by the drawing of lots; lists of candidates of each party with the serial number of each candidate.

Also, all information about the candidates posted on the "TALAPKER" portal, on posters at polling stations, and in regional newspapers that are distributed to voters.

In the course of the simulation, it was explained in detail how the vote count was made. After the voting was over, unused ballot papers left on the hands of the DEC's members must be cancelled, and equally as unused ballot papers left in the safety locker.

All cancelled ballot papers shall be counted and packed in a safe bag that shall be sealed by the commission and signed by its members, indicating the number of ballot papers inside. The number of all cancelled ballot papers shall be recorded to the voting results report.

The number of ballot papers issued to voters is complementarily checked by counting identification slips. The act on the number of ballot papers issued to voters shall be drawn up. A copy of the act, signed by chairperson and sealed by the DEC's seal shall be given to present (attendee) candidates, representatives of candidates, political parties, mass media, observers, and then the data is recorded to the protocol of the enlarged form.

Prior to direct (manual) counting of votes, the DEC chairperson shall announce preliminary voting results of the automatic reading ballot boxes; a separate act on that shall be drawn up that is subject to be attached to the voting results report

and announced in front of all those present. The reports of the automatic reading ballot box, sealed, primary and final identification reports, sealed, are given to all representatives of candidates of political parties, observers, who are in the voting room.

The territorial election commission accepts the first copies of voting results reports from the DEC's combined with other election documentation and summarizes the results of voting the corresponding territory by addition the data contained in them.

After preliminary verification of the accuracy of the district election commissions's reports on the results of voting, the territorial election commission by summing up the data of all district election commissions summarizes the voting results in the corresponding territory for a single-mandate electoral district and for a single constituency.

Voting and counting procedures were explained to public observers in Bishkek

The Central Commission on Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic has arranged the training: "Elections of Deputies to the Dzhogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic-2021. Election monitoring process by observers from candidates and political parties" for observers from political parties and candidates in Bishkek.

The participants were informed on the procedure of registration as observers, the status of observers. It was said that a candidate or a political party are entitled to appoint not more than two observers to each district election commission, who have the right to observe the voting on a rotating basis and other

electoral actions in the voting premises. Two or more observers, representing the interests of one registered candidate, one political party are not allowed to simultaneously exercise the observers' authorities in the premises of the election commission, voting premises.

In order to be registered as observers, a passport of a citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic and an assignment referral from the candidate nominated him/her to a single-mandate electoral district with the signature of the candidate, or an assignment referral from a political party that has nominated a list of candidates, with the party seal are needed. The assignment referral shall indicate 1) surname, name and patronymic; 2) permanent place of residence of an observer; 3) numbers of polling stations, names of election commissions, to which an observer is sent, as well as a note on absence of restrictions at him/her shall be taken. Prior notification on sending an observer is not required.

Observers were informed that before the beginning of voting, DEC's chairperson shall demonstrate to all present empty ballot boxes (PCOS boxes) that are sealed with the seal of the DEC. Also, prior to the start of voting, the control sheets are prepared that specify the number of polling station, time of dropping them, full names of DEC's members, candidates, representatives of candidates and parties present. These persons sign the control sheets and the sheets are certified by DEC's seal. The checklists shall be dropped into the PCOS box.

On the day of voting voter will receive **two ballot papers**:

- one *for the single constituency* that contains **the names of political parties** in the order determined by drawing lots and **54 blank squares numbered on the left outer side of the square**. The number of an empty square corresponds to the serial number of a candidate in the candidates' list;
- the second one *for a single-mandate electoral district* that contains the surnames, candidates' first names, patronymics, dates of birth in the order determined by drawing lots.

The voting booth will contain:

- information materials about all candidates, political parties, in the order determined by drawing lots;
- candidates' lists of each party, indicating the serial number of each candidate.
- all information about candidates is posted on the TALAPKER portal and on posters at polling stations.

In case a candidate withdrawal from the list of candidates of a political party after approval of the form and text of information materials, the information about the candidate is crossed out in the information materials in full, including the serial number in the list of candidates.

It is prohibited:

- to take a ballot paper out of the voting premises;
- persons, staying in the voting premises, are prohibited to block the view or otherwise interfere with the observation of a ballot box;
- staying near the ballot box of other persons than voter dropping a ballot paper.

a DEC's member shall be immediately suspended from his/her work, and an observer and other persons shall be removed from the voting premises if they try to obstruct the work of the election commission or exercise by a citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic of his/her electoral rights, as well as violate the secrecy of vote. **This decision shall be made by the DEC in writing.** In this case the commission has the right to address the relevant bodies to bring these persons to responsibility prescribed by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The procedure of vote counting has also been explained in detail. The CEC counts votes **for each political party and each candidate from the list of candidates** in a single constituency.

A candidate who receives the highest number of votes (**simple majority of votes**) of those who participated in the voting in this single-mandate electoral district is declared an elected deputy of the Djogorku Kenesh. In case of an equal number of votes received by the candidates, a candidate who has submitted a complete set of documents for registration earlier by the date and time is considered elected.