



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Independent Election Commission Secretariat
Information & External Relations Department

Procedures and Timeframe for Announcement of Results

Summary

While ballots will be counted at polling stations following the close of voting, it will be some days before compiled results will start to be announced.

The **only official results** will be those from the Independent Election Commission of Afghanistan, as announced by the Commission. Any result not announced by the IEC is unofficial, inaccurate and are legally null and void.

Afghan citizens and observers are asked to respect the processes the IEC needs to follow and to be patient while waiting for the official announcements.

All Presidential election ballots will be counted at the polling stations on election day and results posted outside the polling station for all to check. The counting of the Presidential vote will be followed by the counting of the Provincial Council votes.

In four provinces, Kabul, Baghlan, Herat and Nangahar, Provincial Council ballots will be counted and posted the next day, due to the number of candidates on the ballots. In all other provinces they will be counted immediately after the Presidential ballots.

Copies of the results sheets will be sealed and brought to the national tally centre where they will be compiled in order to produce the results for each constituency – 1 presidential and 34 provincial council. into the specially designed database by two separate teams of data entry experts.

The results compilation process has numerous checks and safeguards built in to detect and protect against irregularities and fraud.

There will be strict supervision of results entry by IEC staff and international advisors. The process will be open to observers and candidate agents. Individual polling station results will be checked and approved by the IEC commissioners.

Partial Presidential election results will be announced, progressively as they are approved, at the IEC media centre. They will also be posted polling station by polling station on the IEC website so that observers and agents can check results against those they saw counted and posted at each polling station. In the event that any agents believe that any partial results are inaccurate they may lodge complaints.

In addition, there will be a number of audit teams in provinces checking results, looking for any fraud and conducting recounts where necessary.

The Electoral Complaints Commission will also receive and investigate complaints about the polling process especially any that may have a direct bearing on the result.

It is expected that progressive results of the Presidential election will start to be announced polling centre by polling centre from 25 August, according to the retrieval schedule and the estimated time needed to enter them in to the database through all the necessary checks and audits.

Provincial Council results will go through the same process but be announced once the tally for that province is complete.

The IEC needs to maintain a careful balance between speed and accuracy. It will take some time for all the results to be returned to Kabul and because the data entry process is thorough it will take some time.

The **only official results** will be those from the Independent Election Commission of Afghanistan, as announced by the Commission. Any result not announced by the IEC is unofficial, inaccurate and null and void.

Afghan citizens and observers are asked to respect the processes the IEC needs to follow and to be patient while waiting for the official announcements.

Preliminary results from across the country (100% of results from polling stations) are expected during the first week of September and final certified results, after all complaints to the ECC have been investigated, are expected around two weeks later.

Run-Off

For a candidate to win the presidential election they must receive 50 per cent plus 1 of the valid votes cast. If no candidate receives this total, a run-off election between the two highest scoring candidates will be held two weeks after the Certification of the Final results.

The IEC will have two press conferences on Thursday 20th, at 13.30 and at 18.30, to provide reports on the opening and progress of the polling and process. A press conference on 21st will report on voting day generally. There will be daily updates on the process until end of August .

Results timeline

20 August from 4.00p.m.	Counting at polling stations and results posted outside.
21 August 2009	Results begin to be received at National Tally Center
25 August 2009	First Partial Presidential election results announced (this continues daily, cumulatively, until the preliminary complete results are finalized) Majority of results received at National Tally Center
3-7 September 2009	Preliminary Uncertified Results announced
17-21 September 2009	Final Certified Results of Presidential and Provincial Council Election announced after all complaints are adjudicated by ECC

*dates are a guide and may be subject to change

For further information please contact:

Mr. Noor Mohammad Noor

Spokesman, IEC

Cell: 0707186159

E-mail: noormohammad.noor@iec.org.af