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GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NO. 7329 **31 March 2026**

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL ELECTORAL REGULATIONS AND THE REGULATIONS ON THE ACCREDITATION OF OBSERVERS

The Electoral Commission:

1. Acting in terms of section 89 of the Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act, 2000 (Act No. 27 of 2000), intends to amend the Municipal Electoral Regulations, 2000, published under GN R848 in GG 21498 of 22 August 2000, as amended by GN R848 in GG 27957 of 23 August 2005, GN R152 in GG 34045 of 23 February 2011, GN 569 in GG 40020 of 25 May 2016 and Proc R35 in GG 45060 of 27 August 2021, to the extent set out in Schedule 1 below; and

2. Acting in terms of section 100 of the Electoral Act, 1998 (Act No. 73 of 1998), intends to amend the Regulations on the Accreditation of Observers, 1999 published under GN R362 in GG 19857 of 17 March 1999, to the extent set out in Schedule 2 below.

Interested persons are invited to submit their written comments on the proposed amendments to the Electoral Commission (for the attention of Mr Mlungisi Kelembe, Manager: Commission Services) by 15 April 2026, by-

1. Delivering by hand at Election House, Riverside Office Park, 1303 Heuwel Avenue, Centurion, 0157; or

2. E-mailing to: KelembeM@elections.org.za

Comments received after the closing date will not be considered.

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GENERAL EXPLANATORY NOTE

[ ] Words or phrases in bold type square brackets indicate omissions or deletions from existing enactments; and

_____ Words or phrases underlined with a solid line indicate insertion in existing enactments.

SCHEDULE 1

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL ELECTORAL REGULATIONS

Definitions

1. In this Schedule, unless the context indicates otherwise:

1.1. "**the Act**" means the Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act, 2000 (Act No. 27 of 2000);

1.2. "**the Regulations**" means the Municipal Electoral Regulations, 2000, published under GN R848 in GG 21498 of 22 August 2000, as amended by GN R848 in GG 27957 of 23 August 2005, GN R152 in GG 34045 of 23 February 2011, GN 569 in GG 40020 of 25 May 2016 and Proc R35 in GG 45060 of 27 August 2021; and

1.3. any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act and/or the Regulations shall have that meaning.

Amendment of Regulation 19

1. Regulation 19 is amended —

1.1. by the substitution for regulation 19 of the following regulation:

"**19. Accreditation of observers**

(1) An organisation may apply to the Commission to observe an election in terms of section 41 (1) of the Act by completing **[a form substantially similar to Appendix 16 and delivering the completed form together with any documentation in support of the application, at the office of the Commission in Pretoria]** and submitting an online application for accreditation as observer on the Commission's official website.

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(2) An organisation completing an online application for accreditation as observer in terms of subregulation (1) must submit the information and documentation contemplated in section 41 of the Act by—

(*a*) providing the information required in the relevant fields for that purpose on the online application form; and

(*b*) uploading the supporting documents required for that purpose on the online application form.".

Deletion of Appendix 16

2. Appendix 16 is hereby deleted in the Regulations.

Short title and Commencement

3. These Regulations are called the 2026 Amendment to the Municipal Electoral Regulations, 2000, and shall come into operation on the date of publication in the *Gazette*.

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SCHEDULE 2

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS ON THE ACCREDITATION OF OBSERVERS, 1999

Definitions

1. In this Schedule, unless the context indicates otherwise:

1.1. "**the Act**" means the Electoral Act, 1998 (Act No. 73 of 1998);

1.2. "**the Regulations**" means the Regulations on the Accreditation of Observers, 1999 published under GN R362 in GG 19857 of 17 March 1999; and

1.3. any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act and/or the Regulations shall have that meaning.

Amendment of Regulation 1

1. Regulation 1 is amended —

1.1. by the substitution for the definition of "accredited person" of the following definition:

"**accredited person**" means any juristic person accredited by the Commission under these regulations; **[(i)]**

1.2. by the insertion after the definition of "accredited person" of the following definition:

""**official website**" means the website of the Commission accessible at http://www.elections.org.za;

1.3. by the substitution for the definition of "the Act" of the following definition:

"**the Act**" means the Electoral Act, 1998 (Act No. 73 of 1998). **[(ii)]**".

Amendment of Regulation 2

2. Regulation 2 is amended —

2.1. by the substitution for regulation 2 of the following regulation:

"**2. Application for accreditation of observers**

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(1) A juristic person applying for accreditation as an observer of an election must complete and submit an online application **[form similar to Appendix 1 and deliver the completed form together with any documentation in support of the application at the office of the Commission in Pretoria]** for accreditation as observer on the Commission's official website.

(2) A juristic person completing an online application for accreditation as observer in terms of subregulation (1) must submit the information and documentation contemplated in section 84 of the Act by—

(*a*) providing the information required in the relevant fields for that purpose on the online application form; and

(*b*) uploading the supporting documents required for that purpose on the online application form.".

Deletion of Appendix 1

3. Appendix 1 is hereby deleted in the Regulations.

Short title and Commencement

4. These Regulations are called the 2026 Amendment to the Regulations on the Accreditation of Observers, 1999, and shall come into operation on the date of publication in the *Gazette.*

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