Electoral Law of the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia

Amendments to the Electoral Law made in 1996.01.16 is included.

Chapter one General provisions

Article 1. Basic principles of election

- 1. In accordance with Article 21 of the Constitution of Mongolia members of the State Great Hural shall be elected by citizens qualified to vote on the basis of universal, free direct suffrage by secret ballot.
- 2. Elections to the State Great Hural (hereafter "elections") shall be universal. Mongolian citizens who, on the day of elections, are residing in the country, and have reached the age of 18, shall have the right to vote, irrespective of their nationality, ethnic origin, language, race, sex, social origin and status, property, occupation and post, religion, conviction and education., Those who have been certified insane by the medical conclusion and who are under the detention shall not be eligible to participate in elections.
 - Citizens of Mongolia who have reached the age of twenty five and are eligible to vote may be elected to the State Great Hural.
- 3. Elections shall be direct. An elector shall participate in the election without any representation and by personally casting his/her vote shall elect members of the State Great Hural.
- 4. An elector shall cast his/her vote by secret ballot. Any obstacles to the free expression of voter choice shall be prohibited.

Article 2

Right of Nomination of candidates to the State Great Hural

- 1.Parties or Coalitions of parties (hereafter "parties and coalitions") officially registered before the announcement of the election shall have the right to nominate candidates for election to the State Great Hural.
- 2. Another party shall not nominate the candidate of a member of a party. In case of violation of this provision the General Election Committee of the State Great Hural shall remove the name of the candidate from the list of candidates.
- 3. A citizen of Mongolia shall have the right to put forward his/her candidacy for election to the State Great Hural provided that he/she obtained support of not less that 801 electors of his/her constituency.

Article 3.

Administration of the Elections

- 1. Election committees on the levels of the nation, constituencies and divisions shall conduct elections.
- 2. The State central and local organs as well as officials shall participate in the preparation and conduct of elections within their competence.

Article 4.

Transparency in the preparation for and holding of elections

- 1. The preparation for and holding of elections shall be conducted openly. This provision shall not apply to secret ballot.
- 2. It shall be the duty of state press and information agencies to promptly inform the public of the process of the preparation and holding of elections as well as their outcomes.
- 3. The news distributed by other central and local press and information agencies shall be correct and objective.

Article 5.

Economic Guarantee of the Election Activities

- 1. The following election administration expenses shall be funded from state budget:
 - a) expenses involved in producing certificates of electors, candidates and election officers of parties and coalitions, personal assistants (campaign managers) of candidates and observers as well as printing ballot papers, report forms of the result and process of the election, and making seals of the election committees:
 - b) expenses related to election committees' office supplies, stationary, postage, communication, transportation and official trips;
 - c) other expenses to be authorized by the State Great Hural
- 2. The amount of expenses to be financed from the state budget shall be determined by the State Great Hural
- 3. Members of the election committees shall be remunerated for the period of their work in the committees by their institutions in an amount equal to their average monthly salaries. If a pensioner is a member of an election committee, he/she shall be remunerated from the budget of the aimag, city, soum, constituency or similar territorial units, on the basis of the recommendation of the election committee concerned, according to the work performed by him/her.
- 4. The central and local state organs and institutions possessing state properties shall provide election committees with working space and polling places free of charge. Governors of administrative and territorial units concerned shall be responsible for providing the election constituency and division committees with working space, transport, communication and other necessary facilities.
- 5. Election expenses of the candidates of parties and coalitions shall be born by the respective parties and coalitions. Independent candidates shall bear election expenses by themselves.
 - Parties, coalitions and independent candidates shall form an election fund and open an account with a bank and inform the General Election Committee of this action and announce it to the public.
 - This account shall be credited with their own money and contributions from supporting organizations and individuals and transactions shall be made through the account. Individuals and organizations may take only monetary contributions for the election purpose and shall transfer them to the account of the election fund of the parties, coalitions and independent candidates.
 - Candidates are not allowed to receive, give and spend election contributions not through election fund account, as well as to receive contributions during the process of the preparation of the election (from the announcement to the end of the elections) from state budget organizations and institutions sharing state property (from the property belonging to the state), foreign enterprises, (including foreign partners of joint ventures), foreigners and stateless persons. During the campaigning no part of aid resources shall be sold and used for the election campaign purpose.
- 6. After election day during the time of the review of election expenses, transactions of accounts of election funds of the parties, coalitions and independent candidates shall cease. The sum remained unspent on the election funds accounts of independent candidates after the completion of the election shall be collected for

state revenue. The remainder of the contributions made by independent candidates to the common fund shall, however, be returned in proportion to all his/her expenses.

- 7. The election fund shall be used to cover expenses involved in the campaigning of candidates, such as propaganda of candidates, organization of meetings, interviews, stationary work, postage, communication, transport and official trip of candidates, his/her associates and election officers of parties and coalitions, and to finance other expenses authorized by the General Election Committee. The General Election Committee in consultation with the Ministry of Finance shall approve the procedure for the establishing of election campaign funds and their utilization and reporting.
- 8. Parties, coalitions and independent candidates shall submit to the General Election Committee the reports on spending of the election funds within one month after the completion of the election.

 The General Election Committee shall consider the reports and within three months after the completion of the election shall be published the results in the official press.
- 9. Contributions given, received and spent, and sums spent for purposes other than election expenses in violation of procedures described in paragraph 5,7 of this article as well as the sums remaining in the account of the election funds of the parties, coalitions and independent candidates who did not report on time, shall be collected for state revenue.
- 10. Parties represented at the State Great Hural shall be financially supported from the state budget according to the number of seats they hold. The State Great Hural therefore shall determine the amount of financing and the procedure.

Article 6.

Legal guarantee for Ensuring Electoral Rights

- 1. The State Great Hural, the Government, governors of administrative and territorial units within their competence shall supervise the observance of the electoral law and instructions. It shall be prohibited for candidates and party election bodies and officers to participate in reviewing by state organizations the implementation of elections laws and instructions.
- 2. Should a violation of election laws and instructions be qualified as criminal offence, the person concerned shall be imposed penalties under the Criminal Code.
- 3.In cases of intentionally impeding the exercise of the election rights of electors or the execution of duties by the election committees and their members, violating the electoral law and instructions by way of calling the public for the refusal to participate in the elections, misusing religious belief, participating in the elections on behalf of others, buying votes by material incentives and other means, interfering deliberately with the counting of votes, if they are not of criminal nature, the court shall issue fines up to 50.0 thousand tugrugs.
- 4. Officials, who fail to fulfill the duties prescribed in paragraph 2 of article 3, and paragraph 4,5 of article 15 of this law, if not held responsible on disciplinary grounds, shall be fined up to 50,0 thousand tugrugs by court.
- 5. The distribution of the goods to electors with or without charge and the rendering different services (except cultural) by candidates and their associates, parties, coalitions and their supporting organizations in order to gain their votes, shall be prohibited. In cases where parties, coalition and organization violate this provision, the court shall impose fines to parties or other organizations involved up to 250,0 thousand tugrugs, and individuals up to 50,0 thousand tugrugs.
- 6. In cases of violating procedures described in paragraph 1,2 of article 21 and paragraph 3 of the article 40 of this law by the candidates, their personal assistants and election officers of parties and coalitions, such acts shall be demanded to cease. If the violations continue, the court shall fine parties, or other organizations involved up to 250,0 thousand tugrugs, and individuals up to 50,0 thousand tugrugs. If a candidate is found guilty, the General Election Committee shall have the right to remove his/her name from the list of candidates.

- 7. In cases where the duties described in paragraph 4 of article 5, paragraph 3 of article 16, paragraph 2 of article 31, and 2 of article 32 of this law have been violated by governors and heads of state budget organizations, if not to be held responsible on disciplinary ground, those involved shall be fined up to 10,0 thousand tugrugs by the court.
- 8. In cases where the provisions described in paragraph 3,4,5 of article 21 of this law have been violated by the organs of mass media, the court shall impose fines up to 250,0 thousand.
- 9. In cases where the provisions described in paragraph 3 of article 30 of this law have been violated, if not of criminal nature, those involved shall be fined up to 50,0 thousand tugrugs.
- 10. In cases where the provisions described in paragraph 3 of article 14 and paragraph 2 of article 37 of this law have been violated by members of the election committees, the court shall impose fine up to 10,0 thousand tugrugs.

Chapter Two The Announcement of the Election, Organization of the Constituencies and Divisions

Article 7.

Announcement of the Election

- 1. The State Great Hural shall fix and announce elections for the State Great Hural not less than 75 days before the polling day.
- 2. Polling shall not take place on a working day or a holiday.

Article 8.

The Organization of Constituencies

- 1. Election shall be carried out based on single mandate constituencies.
- 2. Election constituencies shall be set up up 70 days prior to the Election Day depending on the number of the population in aimags and capital city. Should the number of population in aimag be less than the state average for setting up a constituency for election to the State Great Hural, the constituency may be set up through joining up soums of the adjoining aimag. If an administrative or territorial unit equated to aimag has less population than the average required to elect a member to the State Great Hural, it shall be included into a neighboring aimag to form one constituency.
- 3. The state shall determine the numbers, territories and centres of electoral constituencies.

Article 9.

Electoral Divisions and their Organization

- 1. For the purpose of polling and counting, presidium members of the Hurals of the Representatives of the soum and constituency citizens shall organize 65 days before the polling day election divisions and announce the number, territories and center of the division. In extraordinary cases such as the migration of a large group of people, an electoral division may be organized not less than 5 days before the election.
- 2. One electoral division may have up to 1.500 electors, in Ulaanbaatar up to 6.000 electors.

Chapter Three Election Organizations and Their Powers

Article 10. Election Committees

- 1. In order to carry out the preparation and conducting the elections,
 - a) The General Election Committee of the State Great Hural;
 - b) Constituency committees:
 - c) Electoral division committees shall be set up respectively.

2. The electoral constituency committees shall set up constituency subcommittees in the soums and administrative and territorial units equated to them, if necessary in urban constituencies.

Article 11.

The General Election Committee and its Powers

- 1. The General Election Committee of the State Great Hural (hereafter "General Election Committee") shall be a permanent organ having duties to carry out elections for the State Great Hural and Presidential elections.
- 2. The General Election Committee shall consist of a Chairman, a Secretary and members. The General Election Committee shall be appointed by the State Great Hural for a term of 5 years. The members of the General Election committee shall serve on an ad-hoc basis and the Chairman and the Secretary shall be full-and-part-time depending on the workload.
- 3. The Chairman, a Secretary and members of the General Election Committee shall not candidates for election to the State Great Hural.
 - The Chairman, a Secretary and members of the General Election Committee shall be prohibited from making propaganda for parties, coalitions and for any candidates.
- 4. The General Election Committee shall exercise the following powers with regard to the preparation and implementation of elections;
 - 1) to plan and organize the preparatory work for election;
 - 2) to supervise the implementation of the election law and instructions, and ensure its strict observance;
 - 3) to coordinate and guide the activities of other election committees;
 - 4) to coordinate the activities of other relevant state organs on matters relating to elections;
 - 5) to interact with central organs of parties and coalitions which have announced their participation in the election on matters relating to elections and to supervise the activities of the organizations acting on behalf of respective parties and coalitions;
 - 6) to examine and resolve complaints concerning the decisions electoral constituency committees and other petitions and disputes arising from the violation of the electoral law and instructions;
 - 7) to distribute the budget of election expenses according to the authorized limits, supervise its spending and examine the reports on its execution and report to the State Great Hural;
 - 8) to approve the forms and standard of election documents, issue methodical instructions and recommendations on the implementation of electoral law and regulations and to print, distribute and calculate ballot papers;
 - 9) to sum up the total results of the election, register members of the State Great Hural and prepare the issue of recognizing their full powers, and submit them to the State Great Hural;
 - 10) to organize the general election archives;
 - 11) to make proposals on the interpretation of how to apply the electoral law and instructions to the Supreme Court, or if necessary, to the State Great Hural;
 - 12) to exercise other powers provided by law
- 5. The General Election Committees shall organize on an ad-hoc basis a special service of financial control headed by one of its members. The service shall exercise the powers of state organs of financial organs of financial control and shall supervise the transactions of election expenses. If necessary it shall also investigate financial documents. The service of financial control shall recruit expertise in the examination and investigation of matters.
- 6. The General Election Committee on matters falling into its competence shall have the right to obtain necessary reports and information from election committees and other central and local state organs involved in the preparation and holding of elections, as well as from other relevant institutions, and to hear reports of officials concerned. It may also give orders and instructions on the matters relating to the implementation of law.

Article 12.

The Constituency Committee and its Powers

1. The General Election Committee shall form constituency committees consisting of Chairman, Secretary and members and shall announce to the public 60 days before the polling days. The General Election Committee

- shall determine the number of members of electoral constituency committees, according to the workload and representation capabilities.
- 2. The Chairman, Secretary and members of constituency committees shall not be candidates for election to the State Great Hural in their constituency.
- 3. The Chairman, Secretary and members of electoral constituency committees shall be prohibited to make propaganda for any party, coalition and candidates.
- 4. Electoral Constituency Committees within their constituency shall exercise the following powers:
 - 1) to plan and organize the preparation work for elections;
 - 2) to supervise the implementation of the election law and instructions, ensure its strict observance, and guide the activities of the electoral constituency sub-committees and division committees;
 - 3) to coordinate the activities of other relevant state organs on their territories on matter relating to elections:
 - 4) to interact with local organizations of parties and coalitions which have announced their participation in the election on matters relating to elections and to supervise and coordinate the activities of the organizations acting on behalf of respective parties and coalitions on the territories concerned;
 - 5) to hear reports of heads of constituency sub-committees, division committees, leaders of parties and coalitions as well as heads of relevant state organs of the respective constituency, and take appropriate measures in connection with the preparation and holding of the election;
 - 6) to examine and solve complaints over decisions of electoral constituency sub-committees, division committees and other petitions, and complaints over disputes arising from violation of the electoral law and regulations;
 - 7) to sum up the results of the constituency election on the basis of the decisions of electoral constituency sub-committees, division committees on the polling and to forward it to the General Election Committee and inform the public:
 - 8) to organize re-polling and conducting re-elections;
 - 9) to file and transfer election documents according to the procedure established by the General Election Committee;
 - 10) to exercise other powers provided by law, to fulfill the orders and instructions given by the General Election Committee

Article 13.

Constituency Subcommittees and their powers

1. Electoral constituency committee shall set up constituency subcommittees consisting of a Chairman, Secretary and up to 5 members, and make the decisions known to the public 55 days before the polling day.

Article 14.

Electoral Division Committees and their Powers

- 1. The number of members of the electoral division committees shall be determined by the Presidium of the Hurals of the Representatives of citizens of soums and constituency according to their workload.
- 2.The Chairman, Secretary and members of the electoral division committees shall not be candidates for election to the State Great Hural in their constituencies.
- 3. The Chairman, Secretary and members of the electoral division committees shall be prohibited from making propaganda for any party, coalition and candidates.
- 4. Electoral division committees shall exercise the following powers and obligations:
 - 1) to inform the voters of the committee's address, its work schedule, polling date and voting time;
 - 2) to distribute election certificates;
 - 3) to transfer elector's certificate and register newly arrived electors;
 - 4) to examine the list of electors within its division;
 - 5) to prepare and organize polling stations, ballot papers and polling boxes:
 - 6) to produce polling results and transmit them to the constituency sub-committees;
 - 7) to file and transfer to the constituency sub-committee the election documents according to the procedure established by the General Election Committee;
 - 8) to decide petitions and complaints filed on matters of the election and transmit them to the organs concerned;

9) to exercise other powers provided by law, and fulfill orders and instructions given by the electoral constituency committees

Article 15.

Organizational Principles of Election Committees

- Election Committees shall discuss matters relating to their full powers at their meetings and take decisions by the majority of votes of their members and adopt resolutions. The presence of at least two thirds of members shall make quorum. The Chairman of the Central and Constituency Election Committees shall issue ordinance on administrative matters.
- 2. Electoral Constituency committees and sub-committees and division committees depending on the need and financial capability may temporarily release their members from their main duties.
- 3. In case other than provided by law, complaints may be made to the constituency committee on decisions of the electoral division committee and constituency sub-committee, and to the General Election Committee on the decisions of the electoral constituency committee. Complaints shall be considered and replied within 10 days from the date of their receipt
- 4. Election committees shall have the right to make demands on state organs, parties and other public organizations as well as officials, in connection with the preparation and holding of the election. Those organizations and officials receiving the demands shall resolve the problem and report back within 5 working days.
- 5. State and public organizations, as well as officials of the respective territories, shall have the duty to abide by the decisions taken by the election committees in accordance with their powers.

Chapter Four Voter Lists

Article 16. Voter lists

- 1. Voter lists shall be compiled for each electoral divisions and the number of voters shall be integrated in the constituency sub-committees and Committees.
- 2. The voter list shall contain the full names, age, residence address, passport and register number of all voters residing permanently or temporarily in the constituencies concerned at the time of the list compilation. The names of voters shall be written in alphabetical order. Each voter shall be registered in one list.
- 3. Governors of soum, constituency, bags and horoos shall compile in duplicate list of voters residing in their territories in accordance with address reference, and in the forms approved by the General Election Committee and submit them to the electoral division committee 50 days before polling day. Chief staff officers of police, hospitals, rest house and sanatoria shall be obligated to provide necessary information for compilation of the list of voters.
- 4. Electoral division committees shall compile in duplicate the elector list, not less than 45 days before the polling day, in the form approved by the General Election Committee and display the copy signed by the Chairman of the division for the information of the public not less than 15 days before polling day, or in case of hospitals, rest houses and sanatoria 7 days before polling day.

Article 17.

Complaints Concerning the Register of Voters

- 1. A voter shall have the right to lodge a complaint to the respective electoral division committee in case the voter's name was not registered or was not duly registered.
- 2. The electoral division committee shall examine the complaint within 3 working days after the receipt and make appropriate changes in the register, or decide to disregard the complaint and respond accordingly. If the elector concerned does not agree with the decision he/she may appeal to the court.

Article 18. Voter movement

In cases a voter moves to another constituency and division before the polling day, he/she shall obtain a movement certificate from the electoral division committee and have his/her name removed from the old elector list and shall be registered in the list of voters of the new constituency and division.

Chapter Five Participation of Parties in the Election, Pre-election Campaign

Article 19.

Participation of Parties in the Election

- 1. Parties shall express their wish to participate in the election to the General Election Committee in writing 65 days before polling day and be entered into the register. Two or more parties may participate as coalition in the election.
- 2. A party shall submit to the General Election Committee its decision whether to participate in election alone or in coalition, along with its election program and coalition agreement. Parties united in coalition shall participate in the election and in the newly elected State Great Hural as one entity. No party of the coalition shall nominate a candidacy alone and set up a separate election fund.

Article 20. Forming a Coalition

- 1. Parties shall decide to set up a coalition at the meetings of their central representative organs (congress, conference and plenums and organs equated to them) and conclude a coalition agreement.
- 2. The coalition shall have an official name and parties in the coalition shall at their joint meeting set up an organ, which represent the coalition in the election and shall nominate presiding officers.
- 3. The coalition agreement shall include the mutual obligations and rights of the parties, the official name of the coalition, the organ representing the coalition, the names and positions of its presiding officers, organizations responsible for the preparation for the election, names of officials representing that organization and other matters agreed upon. The positions and size of the fund contributions of the parties shall be determined by the coalition agreement.
- 4. The coalition agreement shall be signed and sealed by the Chairman of each of the parties joined in the coalition.

Article 21 Pre-election campaign

- 1. Parties, coalitions and candidates who have announced about their participation in the election and been registered therefore, shall have the right to freely explain and acquaint public with their platform and views, arrange gatherings, conduct meetings and have election campaign offices for the purposes of promotion of their candidates. Parties and coalitions shall independently place slogans, promotional fliers and pictures and announcements in streets, squares—and public places permitted by the governors with regard to aimags and district governors with regard to the capital city.
- 2. The pre-election campaign shall be completed 24 hours before the polling day. It shall be prohibited from this time to the end of the election to make in any form agitation and propaganda and seek public opinion in the course of 7 days before the election.
- 3. The Mongolian State Radio and Television shall equally treat each party, coalition and independent candidates contesting in the same constituency in terms of free service, duration and opportunities of conducting agitation and propaganda by parties, coalitions and independents.
- 4.If campaigning through the State Radio and Television at hours other than established by the General Election Committee parties, coalitions and independent candidates concerned shall pay for the service.
- 5. It shall be prohibited to conduct propaganda of any single party, coalition or candidate through broadcasting, TV, newspaper or magazines not affiliated with political parties, in spite of the form of property thereof.
- 6. It shall be prohibited to engage in propaganda calling to refuse participation in the election or any action that violates the election law, and to misuse religious belief and traditions for election propaganda.

Chapter Six. Nomination of Candidates and Registration

Article 22. Nomination

- 1. The nomination of candidates shall start 15 days after the announcement of the election and be completed within 20 days.
- 2. A person shall nominate his/her candidacy in one constituency or the nomination shall be recognized only in one constituency.
- 3. In accordance with article 26 of this law a person who has entered candidates' register and obtained a certificate shall be regarded as a candidate.

Article 23.

Nomination of Candidates by Parties and Coalitions

- 1. The central organs of parties and coalitions shall nominate candidates not exceeding the number of deputies to be elected from the respective constituency. In the nomination of candidates, the opinion of the local organization of the party shall be taken into account and supporters shall participate.
- 2. Parties and coalitions shall forward to the electoral constituency committees decisions on the nomination of candidates for election to the State Great Hural along with the written consents of each candidate and their bio-data produced according to the standard established by the General Election Committee.

Article 24.

Nomination of Independent Candidacy

- 1. Independent candidates shall have registered with the constituency committee a collection of signatures of elector-supporters (hereafter "supporters") described in article 2 of this law, in accordance with the forms established by the General Election Committee. Voters and Supporters of each soum of a particular aimag election constituency and of each election constituency of the capital city shall be represented.
- 2. The supporters of candidates shall be citizens registered in the list of electors as qualified to vote. The supporters' names, numbers of national passports and their registration and addresses shall be written in the form and signed.
- 3. An independent candidate shall transmit the form signed by their supporters to the electoral constituency committee along with the bio-data and the statement on his/her nomination produced according to the standard established by the General Election Committee.
- 4. The electoral constituency committee or sub-committee shall verify the correctness of the signatures of the supporters of the candidates with the citizens' documents and the registration of the addresses, and, if necessary, shall interview the supporters. In case of forged signatures, the electoral constituency committee shall cancel the candidacy of the person concerned.

Article 25.

Candidate's Deposit

Each candidate shall deposit 10000 tugrugs with the electoral constituency committee. The deposit shall be made to the election expense fund described in paragraph 5 of article of this law. If the candidate is elected to the State Great Hural deposit shall be returned. If the candidate has not elected but obtained votes not less than the average belonging to each candidate of the respective constituency, half of the deposit shall be returned. (according to the number of valid ballot papers)

Article 26.

Registration of candidates

1. The electoral constituency committees shall register candidates of parties, coalitions as well as independent candidates and issue certificates within 45 day after the announcement of the election. In so doing, the constituency committee shall verify the correctness of the documents transmitted by parties, coalitions and

- independent candidates and whether the nominations have been done in conformity with the law and regulations.
- 2. The electoral constituency committee shall take decisions on the registration of candidates and forward them to the General Election Committee. After the completion of the registration of candidates, the electoral constituency committees and the General Election Committee shall compile the list of all candidates by each constituency and the nation, and inform the public within 3 and 6 working days respectively.

Article 27.

Revoking the Nomination, Candidate's Refusal

- 1. Candidates shall have the right to refuse a nomination. Parties and coalitions shall also have the right to withdraw their candidates and replace them by others. The candidates, the parties and coalitions shall immediately inform the electoral constituency committees of these decisions.
- 2. The General Election Committee shall inform the public of the withdrawal of their candidates at least 21 days before polling day, they shall have no right to nominate other persons in place of the withdrawn candidates.

Article 28.

The Re-nomination of Candidates

In case of the death of candidate or the withdrawal of a candidate by the parties and coalitions, in accordance with article 27 of this law the parties and coalitions concerned may nominate another person and have him/her registered with the electoral constituency committee 18 days before polling day.

Article 29.

Assistance to the Candidates

- 1. Election officers and organizations of the parties and coalitions shall assist the candidates in meeting the electors, propagandizing their election programs and general campaigning. Independent candidates may have personal assistants, or campaigners.
- 2. Election officers and organizations of the parties and coalitions and personal assistants shall register with the electoral constituency committee and obtain certificates.
- 3. Election officers and organizations of the parties and coalitions and personal assistants of the candidates shall not be members of any election committees.

Article 30

Guarantees for the Activities of the Candidates

- 1. Candidates of the parties and coalitions and independent candidates shall have the right to explain their election programs freely, express their viewpoints and publicize their policies through the press and information media. They also have the right to obtain necessary information and reference materials from the relevant organs of the election constituency, according to the appropriate order and procedure.
- 2. It shall be forbidden to arraign, arrest, detain candidates, to impose court administrative penalties, conduct searches of their residences, offices and physical search without the consent of the electoral constituency committee. It shall be forbidden to have candidates removed from their jobs by the administration of their workplace.
- 3. It shall be forbidden to slander, humiliate and disgrace the dignity and reputation of the candidates, and to disclose personal secrets or open their correspondence.
- 4. The administration of the candidates' work place shall relieve the candidate from his/her main duties, according to law and regulations and render assistance to his/her work in the constituency.

Article 31.

Meeting of Candidate

1. Candidates for election to the State Great Hural may have meeting with the electors up to 24 hours before voting.

2. The governors of the respective administrative territorial units shall have the duty to render all possible assistance to the candidates in their meeting with the electors.

Chapter Seven Polling, Results of the election and Registration of Members of the State Great Hural

Article 32. Polling

balloting.

1. Polling shall be carried out at designated places from 07 o'clock till 22 o'clock. The electoral division committee shall announce to the public the polling day, hours and places 14 days before election days. The governors of the respective soums and constituency under their jurisdiction shall be responsible for the preparagraphtion of special premises with polling booths and boxes, and sufficient numbers of rooms for secret

Article 33. Ballot Papers

- 1. The ballot paper shall be the basic document for expressing the voters of the electors and compiling the result of the election.
- 2. The ballot paper shall be printed according to the standard approved by the General Election Committee and shall be transmitted by the same committee to the electoral constituency committees. The electoral constituency committees shall transfer the ballots through their sub-committees to the electoral division committees 5 days before polling day.
- 3. Surnames and names of candidates on ballot paper shall be followed by the name of the party of coalition they are affiliated with, and printed. The precedence of the parties and coalitions shall be determined by the order in which the political parties were registered with the Supreme Court. The names of independent candidates shall be printed after the candidates of the parties and coalitions in the order which they were registered.
- 4. The ballot paper shall be signed and sealed by the Chairman and Secretary of the respective division committees. Ballot paper without signatures and seals shall not be used.

Article 34. Organization of Polling

- 1. At 8 a.m of the polling day the staff of the electoral division committee in the presence of the representative of electors shall check and seal all the poll boxes and begin polling. Observers nominated by the parties, coalitions and independent candidates as well as representatives of electors and press and information media may attend the opening.
- 2. The Observers shall register with electoral constituency committee or sub-committee and secure certificates. The observers shall have the right to watch only from the outside if polling, counting the votes and compiling the results are being done in conformity with the election law and regulations, and shall not interfere in the work of the election committees. The participation of foreign observers shall be decided by the General Election Committee in consultation with the organs of external relations.
- 3. The electoral division committee shall collate the certificate and national passport of the voter with the electoral register and deliver ballot paper to each elector. The name of a person who transferred from other constituency during the polling shall be added to the electoral register and given ballot paper on the basis of his/her election certificate, national passport and other document equated to the latter and transfer certificate.
- 4. The delivery of the ballot paper shall be marked on the list of voters and the polling shall be recorded on the elector's certificate and sealed by the electoral division committee.

Article 35. Casting of Votes

- 1. The elector shall come to the polling station and cast his/her vote in person. However, at the request of an elector who is unable to come to poling station for reasons of health or other justifiable reasons, not less than two members of the electoral division committee shall visit his/her and have his/her vote in a sealed box. If an elector has to move to another place temporarily within the period between the distribution of ballot papers to the electoral division and the end of the polling, he/she may come to the electoral division committee and cast his/her vote on the ballot paper, and leave it in the sealed envelope. The electoral division committee shall strictly keep the secret of the sealed vote of the elector.
- 2. Elector shall receive a ballot-paper, proceed to the polling booth and circle the ordinal number of one candidacy only whom he/she should wish to elect from the list of candidates provided in the ballot-paper, and put the latter into the ballot-box.
- 3. If an elector in expressing his/her vote erroneously marked in the ballot paper, he/she may return the ballot paper to the division committee before placing it into the poll box, and take another ballot paper. The electoral committee shall keep the returning ballot paper and this shall be duly recorded.
- 4. The elector shall be alone in the polling booth. However, an elector who is unable to mark his/her vote by himself/herself may be assisted by his/her trusted person. However, election officers of the parties, coalitions and personal assistants of independent candidates or members of election committees and observers shall not be allowed to assist in this case.
- In order to avoid any confusion and mistakes such as putting more ballot papers or other papers in the poll box electoral division committee shall supervise the polling without infringing the principle secrecy of the ballot.
- 6. In case of the need to hold re-polling, the electoral division committee shall number the poll-boxes by sections of elector voting lists and have the ballot papers inserted accordingly.

Article 36.

Cancellation of Ballot Papers

In the following cases ballot papers shall be canceled:

- 1) the vote was with papers other than the approved standard
- 2) an absence of the signatures of the Chairman, Secretary and the seal of the respective electoral division committees;
- 3) names have been circled in excess of the mandate, or any mark other than the one provided in this law, has been made.
- 4) names of all candidates are crossed out.
- 5) marks put more the names of the candidates are altered.

Article 37. Counting Votes.

- 1. The counting of votes shall start at 10 p.m. and be open to scrutiny. Observers and representatives of the electors and the press and information media may be present during the counting of votes.
- 2. At 10 p.m. the electoral division committee shall announce the start of the counting of votes and seal up the ballot papers remained undelivered and open the poll boxes. It is forbidden to open the poll box before this time, or to have break-time during the counting.
- 3. The electoral division committee on the basis of the list of electors shall count and compile the total number of the electors of the respective constituency, the number of electors who have received ballot papers, the number of valid and invalid ballot papers taken out of the boxes and the number of votes given in favor of each candidate.
- 4. The electoral division committee shall discuss at its meeting the results of the counting of votes and take its decision. The decision shall be immediately forwarded to the electoral constituency sub-committee, if there is no sub-committee, to the constituency committee.

Article 38.

Results of Polling in the Constituency of Members of the State Great Hural

- 1. The electoral constituency committee on the basis of the decisions of the sub-committees and division committees shall count and total the number of the constituency elections, the number of electors who have received ballot papers, the number of valid and invalid papers and the number of votes cast in favor of each candidate.
- 2. The results of the election shall be compiled using only the ballot papers.
- 3. A candidate shall be deemed to have been elected to the State Great Hural should he/she obtain the majority of votes in a particular constituency, provided that the majority of 25 per cent or more votes is ensured. Should no candidate obtain 25 percent or more votes, two candidates who have obtained the majority of votes shall be left in the ballot- paper, and voting shall be carried out again. Repolling shall be carried out according to the procedure provided in article 40, paragraph 2 of this law. Should no candidate obtain 25 percent or more votes during the second voting reelection shall be conducted.
- 4. Re-polling shall take place within 14 days after the election day.
- 5. The electoral constituency committee shall register those who have been elected members of the State Great Hural and issue temporary certificates.
- 6. The electoral constituency committee shall produce the result of the election within 3 days and discuss at its meeting and inform the Central Election Committee within 2 days.

Article 39.

Summing up the Results of the Election and Information

- 1. The General Election Committee on the basis of the decisions of the electoral constituency committees shall produce the result of the election by each electoral constituency, candidates, parties and coalitions.
- 2. The General Election Committee shall inform and present to the President the number of seats obtained by the parties and the list of the members selected to the State Great Hural within 15 days after the completion of the election and take it known to the public.

Chapter Eight Invalidation of Polling and Election, Re-polling and Re-election, By-election

Article 40.

Invalidation of Polling in Election Division, Re-polling

- 1. The electoral division committee shall regard the polling in the electoral division in the following cases:
 - a) polling was held at a place other than that was announced, or under the circumstances other than calamities such as fire, food and other justifiable conditions, or vote was taken on a day other than that was announced except by sealed vote taken from a transferred elector.
 - b) the loss of a polling box after the start of the polling, or the opening of a polling box before the set time:
 - c) any actions of a violence and pressure on the members of election committees or voters that altered votes or the result of the election;
 - d) if members of election committees and officials of other organizations (violated the election law) by abusing their official position or cheating, and this action has seriously affected the election results.
- 2. In case of invalidation of polling within 7 days after the decision of the electoral constituency committee, repolling shall take place. The decision to hold re-polling shall be made by the Electoral constituency committee. The decision shall indicate the polling place and date. The re-polling may be held on a working day. If the polling was canceled in a whole division the electors of the division concerned will vote again. If the votes of a particular ballot box were canceled those electors who put their ballot papers in that box shall participate in the re-polling.
- 3. Agitation and propaganda shall be prohibited until the completion of re-polling.

Article 41.

Invalidation of the Election in Constituency, Re-election.

- 1. The General Election Committee shall regard the elector invalid in the following cases:
 - a) 50 per cent of all the eligible electors of the constituency did not participate in the election.
 - b) the result of the constituency election was seriously affected by invalidation of the re-polling held in accordance with article 40 of this law.
- 2. The General Election Committee shall take a decision on holding re-election in the constituency.
- 3. The re-election shall be held within 30 days after the decision to regard the election of the respective constituency invalid.

If necessary, the electoral constituency and division committees shall be reformed and the relevant provisions of the law shall be applied in the presentation of the re-election, such as the nomination of candidates for election to the State Great Hural.

Article 42.

Election of Substitute Member of the State Great Hural

- 1. Should a member of the State Great Hural deceas, or be discharged of member's duties at his/her request of be challenged, the State Great Hural shall announce within 14 days from the date the vacancy opened about the election of substitute member of the State Great Hural, and the election shall be carried out within 45 days after the announcement.
- 2. Election of the substitute member of the State Great Hural shall be carried out in accordance with relevant provisions of this law, and election measures shall be carried out within the following timeframe;
 - 1) election constituency, election precinct, election constituency committee and election precinct committee shall be set up 40,35 and 25 days prior to the voting day respectively.
 - 2) nomination of candidates shall start after 10 days from the date of announcement about the election and be finished within 15 days. Activities as regards nomination of candidates shall be carried out within the above timeframe.
 - 3) list of voters shall be made according to the procedure provided in law and submitted to the election precinct committee 20 days prior to the voting day. Election precinct committee shall take the list available to voters not less than 15 days prior to the voting day.
- 3. Mandate of the substitute member of the State Great Hural shall be the remaining term of the previous member.
- 4. Election of the substitute member of the State Great Hural shall not be conducted should the remaining term of the mandate be less than 1 year.

Article 43.

Solution of Disputes

Any disputes over the State Great Hural elections shall be resolved by the Constitutional Court, courts and election committees in accordance with the jurisdiction and procedures prescribed by law and regulations.

Article 44.

Entering into Force

This law shall come into force from 8th April 1992. Ulaanbaatar, 4 April 1992

With 1996 Ammendements to the Electoral Law of the State Great Hural of Mongolia

Article 6, para 3, line 11:

" ... fines up to 50,000 tugrugs."

Article 6, para 4, lines 4-5:

"...disciplinary grounds, shall be fined up to 50,000 tugrugs by court."

Article 6, para 5, line 6:

"... In case of violation of this law the court shall impose fines, up to 250,000 for parties, coalitions and organizations, up to 50,000 for individual citizens."

Article 6,para 6, line 7-8:

"... organizations involved up to 250,000 tugrugs, and individuals up to 50,000 tugrugs."

Article 6,para 7, line 6:

"... involved shall be fined up to 10,000 tugrugs."

Article 6,para 8, line 4:

"...impose fines up to 250,000 tugrugs."

Article 6,para 9, line 4:

"...up to 50,000 tugrugs by the court."

Article 6,para 10, line 4:

"committees, the court shall impose fines up to 10,000 tugrugs."

Article 8, para 1, line 1-2:

" For the elections single-member constituencies shall be organized."

Article 8, para 2, line 1-2:

"Constituencies shall be organized 70 days before the..."

Article 21, para 5, line 1-2:

" It shall be forbidden for any media organization, except those belonging to the political parties, to engage in an..."

Article 25, line 1:

"Each candidate shall deposit 10,000 tugrugs with..."

Article 35, para 2, line 2-3:

"...enter a polling booth and circle the number before the name of one candidate only whom he/she wishes to support..."

Article 38, para 3:

"Candidate, who received most votes, but equal to or exceeding 25 per cent of votes, is considered to be elected member of the State Great Hural.

If none of candidates received equal to or exceeding 25 per cent of votes, two candidates with most votes will be eligible for repolling. Repolling shall be condacted according to the procedure stated in the para 2 of article 40 of this law. If none of candidates received equal or exceeding 25 per cent of votes in repolling, re-election provided by this law shall take place."

Article 38, para 4:

"Repolling shall take place within 14 days after the election day."

Article 38, para 5:

(Reeds as para 4 of the 1992 law)

Article 38, para 6:

(Reeds as para 5 of the 1992 law)

Article 42, para 1:

" In case of the death of a member of the State Great Hural, or a member's request to withdraw from the membership, or, if member was called back from the State Great Hural, re-election shall be announced within 14 days and take place within 45 days after occurance of the vacancy.

Article 42, para 2:

"Re-election shall be conducted according to provisions of this law and within the following terms:

Subpara 1: " Electoral constituency, election divisions, electoral constituency committee and electoral division committee shall be set up 40, 35, 25 and 25 days respectively prior to the election day."

Subpara 2: "The nomination of candidates shall start 10 days after the announcement of re-elections and be completed within 15 days. Re-nomination of candidates shall occur within the above stated time period.

Subpara 3: "Voter list shall be produced according to the law and given to the electoral division committee 20 days before the election day. Electoral division committee shall display this list to the public not later than 15 days prior to the election day.

Article 42, para 3:

(Reeds as para 2 of the 1992 law)

Article 42, para 4:

(Reeds as para 3 of the 1992 law)