18 September 2021

**Measures to improve the conduct of the electoral process**

**Agreed by the Co-facilitators in the 2nd phase in the Inter-Party Dialogue**

**18 September 2021**

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|  | Measure  | Implementation path  | Competent authority  |
| 1 | **Establishment of a Temporary Supervisory Body.***Composition*: Its composition should ensure political pluralism and professional expertise. Format: 6+6. Six members are proposed by the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Media (REM), and the remaining six members (3+3 format). are proposed by the Speaker of the National Assembly after consultation with IPD co-facilitators.Competences: media monitoring, consultation, report on RTS and RTV rulebook implementation and on recommendations for private broadcasters issue opinions of the work of the independent institutions and their decisions. Inform public on its assessment and work, monitor the use of the recommendation for private national broadcasters. Organize regular press conferences. | Formation of the ad hoc body made by the Ministry of Culture and Information. No one who is a candidate on any electoral list can be a member of this body.Realistic timeframe for having an operational body is 30 days following the 2nd round of the 2nd phase of the IPD. | Government to secure the necessary budget for its functioning.  |
| 2 | **Adoption of a binding rulebook** for the National Public Broadcaster (RTS and RTV) to better regulate the election campaign coverage.  | In line with the ODIHR recommendations and the legal framework, the adoption of the rulebook for the RTS should be followed by public consultation and the draft to be consulted with the Temporary Supervisory Body. The procedure of adoption of the Rulebook to be completed within 30 days following the creation of the Temporary Supervisory Body.  | Regulatory Body for Electronic Media in consultation with the remaining members of the Temporary Supervisory Body.  |
| 3 | **All media** **shall be required to publish their political advertising rates before the election campaign starts.** | Amend the Law on Electronic MediaTimeframe for finalizing the law changes and entry into force not to be longer than 60 days following the second round of the IPD. | Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia.  |
| 4 | **Adoption of recommendations for private national broad-casters**, both terrestrial and via cable. These recommendations refer to presentation of electoral lists’ and candidates’ programmes during the election campaign. | Recommendation to be prepared by consultation with the Temporary Supervisory Body within 15 days following the creation of the Temporary Supervisory Body.  | Regulatory Body for Electronic Media (REM) with prior consultation of the Temporary Supervisory Body. |
| 5 | **Defining methodology of media monitoring** during the election campaign that will ensure trust and transparency of the monitoring and will be based on quantitative and qualitative parameters, which will reflect the tonality of the reporting and the nature of the broadcasters. The methodology shall be determined in a transparent process by the competent body following consultations with the relevant institutions, authorities, bodies and organizations.  | Methodology to be prepared by consultation in consultation with the Temporary Supervisory Body within 30 days following the creation of the Temporary Supervisory Body and in line with the best European practices.  | Regulatory Body for Electronic Media. |
| 6 | **Establishment of a suitable distribution key** regarding political advertisement at the National Public Broadcaster (RTS and RTV).  | National Public Broadcaster to adopt a document within 5 days following the call for elections in full respect of Art 7 para 1 item 8 from the Law on Public Service Broadcasters ensuring that all participants get space in the prime time/RTS 1.   | National Public Broadcaster  |
| 7 | **Adopt self-regulation to ensure** **adequate airtime** to express positions and views of the opposition on news related programmes on the National Public Broadcaster. | National Public Broadcaster to adopt a self-regulation in full respect of the existing framework ensuring that all political actors get adequate space in the prime time/RTS 1.  | National Public Broadcaster |
| 8 | **Improve the system of fighting against the abuse of public office and public resources** | Amendment to the Law on Prevention of Corruption | National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia |
| 9 | **Temporary change of the standing REC composition** by adding 6 additional members and 6 substitutes to its composition from therank of the overall opposition in the country (3+3 format).  **The REC should operate on the principles of collegiality and it should strive for making decisions with the widest possible concensus.** | Adopting legal changes which will be followed by parliamentary procedures for election of REC members and substitutes upon proposal from the opposition within 60 days following the second round of the IPD process.  | National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia  |
| 10 | **Change the financing of election campaign costs**, so that 30% of the funds are equally distributed to all submitters of electoral lists who stated that they want to cover election campaign costs from public funds, and that 70% of the funds need to be distributed only to the electoral lists that have won seats in the Parliament, proportionally to the number of seats won.  | Amendments to the Law on Financing Political Activities in the part related to the criteria for financing the election campaign costs  | National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia  |
| 11 | **Ensure that authorities have sufficient procedures in place to prevent and investigate undue pressure on voters,** including employees of state or state-affiliated institutions and enterprises.  | Immediate coordination with relevant authorities.  | Responsible authorities.  |
| 12 | **Voter registration data to be periodically published, in accordance with the existing legislation and ODIHR recommendations**  | Implementation of the Instructions for the Implementation of the Law on the Voters List as amended in April 2021. | Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government and its Working Group for verification of Voter Registry |
| 13 | **Voter Registry Audit** | Resuming the process of voter registry audit in conformity with international standards and with independent monitoring.  | Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government and its Working Group for verification of Voter Registry |
| 14 | **Improve procedures** including vote count, control of results, completion of the result protocols and election results by polling station and their prompt publication.  | Approval of Instructions to enable timely publication of the polling board protocols |  Republic Electoral Commission |
| 15 | **The status of observers should be regulated by law.**  | Amend the law on Election of Members of the Parliament in order to recognize the status of the observers, followed by further regulation by the Republic Electoral Commission.  | National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and the Republic Electoral Commission |
| 16 | Reduce the number of signatures necessary for electoral lists of national minority parties for the parliamentary elections to 5000 signatures and ensure prevention of the abuse of the law. | Amend the Law on Election of Members of Parliament | National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia |