

DECISION

of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the general results of the Municipal Elections held on December 23, 2014

By decision # 4/25 of the Central Election Commission, dated October 21, 2014, 1880390 persons of 4831328 voters or 38,92% of the total number of voters whose entries had been included in voters' list participated in the Municipal Elections on December 23, 2014 and the elections were valid.

During the preparation and conduct of the elections registered candidates to the membership of 37077 municipalities were provided with equal opportunities in comply with the Election Code and other legislative acts of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The voting was conducted in 5015 polling stations on 118 election constituencies to elect members to 15035 of 1607 municipalities on the country.

To conduct the Municipal Elections was not possible in the territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan occupied by Armenia – in Nagorno Karabakh (Khankendi city, Shusha, Khojali, Asgaran and Khojavend regions), in the whole areas of Aghdere, Kalbajar, Lachin, Zangilan, Gubadli and Jabrayil and in the occupied areas of Aghdam and Fuzuli regions. Sovereign rights of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as, other rights of Azerbaijan citizens who became internally displaced people as a result of occupation alongside with the rights to participate in the establishment of local self-governing bodies and to elect and to be elected to these bodies have been severely violated.

The elections were observed openly on the voting day by more than 50000 observers, also media representatives functioning within the republic upon undertaking necessary legal activities to ensure transparency in elections, installing webcams in 20% of the existing polling stations and facilitating free activity of observers.

On Election Day incessant vote calculation started after the voting, the data included in the protocols of the Precinct Election Commissions where elections had been conducted on the country was posted on the website of the Central Election Commission in an operative manner and basing on the information in the protocols of more than 70% of Precinct Election Commissions, entered at 00.30 a.m. (midnight), the Central Election Commission declared preliminary voting results. In the first half of the next day the protocol information of all the precincts on the country was transmitted to the CEC website, thereby facilitating both the country and international community to make familiar with the preliminary election results.

Final protocols and other election documents were delivered to Constituency Election Commissions by Precinct Election Commissions within the time period defined by law and the Con.EC protocols on all municipalities were submitted to CEC within 2 days after the voting day. The protocols and information included in other attached documents, as well as, the appeals received by CEC were investigated thoroughly. Consequently, it was revealed that severe law violations and grave mistakes had been committed in some municipalities which impacted the election results with regard to making the results official by Con.ECs, in some cases, relevant PECs allowed restricting voters' rights to vote and serious grounds had been found to consider the voting results invalid in 40 polling stations and consequently, in 7 more municipalities (the voting results on one municipality had been considered invalid by the CEC decision # 2/35, dated January 5, 2015).

Generally, it was determined that 14963 members had been elected to municipalities upon invalidating the voting results on 8 municipalities and thus, formed 1599 municipalities in full structure.

Shabran-Siyazan Con.EC # 54, Masalli city Con.EC # 70 and Lankaran-Masalli Con.EC # 75 were defined to have offended the requirements of the Election Code severely.

By assuming the above-mentioned as a basis and pursuant to Articles 19.4, 23.2, 25, 28.2, 28.4, 107.4, 112.9, 239, 240 and 241 of the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan and items # 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8 of "Instruction on the rules for filing appeals and complaints to the Central Election Commission and Constituency Election Commissions of the Republic of Azerbaijan and their consideration", CEC **decides:**

1. The validity of the Municipal Elections of the Republic of Azerbaijan held on December 23, 2014 and conduct of the elections in comply with the Constitution, Election Code and other legislative acts of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be taken into consideration.

2. Since the voters' will on 40 polling stations had not been possible to determine, the voting results shall be considered invalid on those precincts.

3. Considering the relevant decisions of the Central Election Commissions of the Republic of Azerbaijan on invalidating the elections on some polling stations and municipalities, generally, the voting results on 43 precincts (Appendix # 1) and pursuant to article 240.2.1 of the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the elections on 8 municipalities (Appendix # 2) shall be regarded as invalid.

4. 1599 municipalities where the general election results have been officially approved shall be considered to be formed in full structure.

5. The list of members elected to municipalities shall be declared.

6. Due to the mistakes committed in their activity during the preparation and conduct of elections and determination of the results - Shabran-Siyazan Con.EC # 54, Masalli city Con.EC # 70 and Lankaran-Masalli Con.EC # 75, also, the PECs the results of which have been invalidated – PEC # 15 of Garadagh-Binagadi-Yasamal Con.EC # 12, PEC # 12 of Yasamal first Con.EC # 15, PEC # 37 of Shabran-Siyazan Con.EC # 54, PEC # 4 of Masalli village Con.EC # 71 and PEC # 42 of Aghjabadi-Fuzuli Con.EC # 83 shall be dismissed.

7. Final protocol of the Central Election Commission on general results of the Municipal Elections shall be compiled.

CEC Chairman

Mazahir Panahov

CEC Secretary

Arifa Mukhtarova

CEC Secretary

Mikayil Rahimov