

DECISION

of Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan
on the distribution of free airtime and publication of airtime schedule in the early Presidential
Elections of the Republic of Azerbaijan, appointed to February, 2024

The registration of the candidates in the early Presidential elections of the Republic of Azerbaijan, appointed to February 7, 2024 has ended and consequently, the candidacies of seven contestants were registered. Pursuant to Article 75.2 of the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan (hereinafter, referred to as – Election Code), registered candidates and the entitled subjects could conduct free and payable campaign within the manner determined by the legislation within 23 days prior to the voting day, during pre-election campaign starting from January 15, 2024.

Pursuant to Article 77.1 of the Election Code, the public TV and radio broadcasting organizations shall allocate equal conditions for the registered candidates and political parties with registered candidates to conduct pre-election campaign.

For the purpose of distribution of the free airtime allocated among the registered candidates and political parties with registered candidates on the basis of equal terms and volume by the Public TV and Radio Broadcasting Company (hereafter referred to as – PTV) for conducting pre-election campaign in the early Presidential elections of the Republic of Azerbaijan, appointed to February 7, 2024, a lottery commission was established, the place and date of the lottery was determined, information about this was officially published and the interested subjects were informed by the Decision #3/14 of the Central Election Commission (hereafter referred to as - CEC) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, dated on January 14, 2024,.

Public TV and Radio Broadcasting Company has allocated free airtime 2 times more (6 hours in a week) than the volume implied by Article 80.5 of the Election Code and undertook the commitment of allocating this time by 3 hours in TV and 3 hours in radio for the use of the entitled subjects in the format of "round table". According to the consensus arrived between CEC and the Public TV and Radio Broadcasting Company upon the initiative of the registered candidates and political parties with a registered candidate, the allocated airtime will be presented to the TV audience during most watchable hours at 21.00 for an hour each time on three weekdays and to the radio audience at 21.00 for an hour each time on three weekdays.

The lottery commission shall determine the distribution of the airtime allocated by PTV by drawing lots, the results of the drawing shall be recorded in a protocol and the airtime schedule shall be published.

Adopting the above-mentioned as a basis and pursuant to Articles 19.4, 19.14, 28.2, 28.4, 74, 75, 80.1 and 80.4-80.7 of the Election Code, CEC **d e c i d e s**:

1. Lottery commission shall ensure the distribution of the airtime allocated by PTV by drawing lots, the total volume of the airtime for 6 hours weekly (3 hours – each time for an hour on TV by starting from 21.00 and 3 hours on radio by starting from 21.00) in the early Presidential elections of the Republic of Azerbaijan, appointed to February 7, 2024.
2. Lottery results shall be recorded officially in a protocol and the airtime schedule shall be published (attached).
3. The administrative body of PTV shall be empowered with qualified and timely deliverance of the allocated airtime to users.
4. Decision shall be enforced upon its publication.

CEC Chairman

Mazahir Panahov

CEC Secretary

Arifa Mukhtarova

CEC Secretary

Mikayil Rahimov