

Code of conduct

Adherence to the Code of Conduct

All accredited entities, observers, state representatives, delegates and their interpreters must adhere to the provisions, principles and standards outlined in this Code of Ethics.

Principles and standards of electoral processes observation

Electoral processes observation is the systematic collection of information on the electoral processes without interference in the processes itself. Based on the collected information, election observation groups can issue non-biased and objective evaluations of the electoral processes.

Rights and responsibilities of the observers

In performance of their duties the observers have right to:

- Observe the entire electoral process with unimpeded access to electoral processes facilities stations during voter registration, voting and counting processes;
- Obtain information on appropriate electoral processes from relevant Institutions;
- Meet with any person, organization, political party representatives, candidates and/or civil society groups in order to obtain information relevant to goals of their observation mission as long as such meetings are not seen as providing direct support or opposition to any party, political or electoral authority;
- Enjoy freedom of movement throughout the territory of Solomon Islands;
- Interview the registrants or voters outside the voter registration, polling and/or counting centers to obtain information relevant for their observation missions as long as that information is not related to the voting option or political preference of the registrant/voter or disrupting the electoral processes; and
- Address their concerns or the complaints over irregularities observed at the voter registration, polling and/or counting centers to the center manager but not to direct or instruct any electoral official, security official, or other official of the Solomon Islands Electoral Commission and/or the Government of Solomon Islands nor to direct or instruct any registrant, voter, candidate, agent or other observer.

In performance of their duties the observers are obliged to:

- Respect sovereignty of Solomon Islands, human rights and fundamental freedoms of its people;
- Respect the applicable Laws of Solomon Islands and the Authority of its electoral bodies;
- Refrain from interfering in the political affairs of Solomon Islands;
- Maintain strict political impartiality at all times;
- Refrain from obstructing or interfering in the electoral processes;
- Maintain accuracy of observations and professionalism in drawing conclusions;
- Display accreditation documentation and provide appropriate identification when required;
- Refrain from violating the security in general and the security of the electoral processes in particular; and
- Show permanent commitment to this code of conduct.

Final provisions

Every person observing the electoral processes in Solomon Islands must read and understand this Code of Conduct and must sign a pledge to follow it.

Any violation to the provisions of this code of conduct at the voter registration, polling and/or counting centers may lead to observer being asked to leave the electoral facilities by the authorized electoral official.

In case of violation of provisions of this Code of Conduct or violation of any other Law and/or Regulation, the OSIEC may revoke the observer credentials granted to any accredited observer.

Pledge to follow the provisions of the Code of Conduct

I, _____ pledge to abide by the Code of Conduct and applicable laws and regulations, and to respect the integrity of the electoral processes in Solomon Islands.

Signature _____

Date _____