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THE ELECTIONS (PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT) OF THE REPUBLIC LAWS 1959 TO 2017

(English translation and consolidation)

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NOTE FOR THE READER

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The Note appearing at the end of the publication is important and should be borne in mind.

However useful the English translation of the consolidated Law is in practice, it does not replace the original text of the Law, since only the Greek text of the Laws published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Cyprus is authentic.

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THE ELECTIONS (PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT) OF THE REPUBLIC LAWS 1959 TO 2017.

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A LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE HOLDING OF THE ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

PART I PRELIMINARY

Short title. 37 of 1959 1. This Law may be cited as the Elections (President and Vice

41 of 1959 President of the Republic) Laws 1959 to 2017.

43 of 1959

81 of 1982

19 of 1988

108(I) of 1992

86(I) of 1996

18(I) of 1997

91(I) of 1997

1(I) of 1998

196(I) of 2002

1(I) of 2013

164(I) of 2015

91(I) of 2016 90(I) of 2017

155(I) of 2017.

Interpretation.

2.-(1) In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires-

3(a) of 81 of

"Vice-President" means the Vice President of the Republic;

"candidate" means a person who is nominated for election as President or Vice-President;

2 of 18(I) of 1997.

"General Returning Officer" means, as the context or circumstances may require a Greek General Returning Officer or a Turkish General Returning Officer, appointed under section 8(1) and includes, as the context or circumstances may require, the Greek Assistant General Returning Officer or the Turkish Assistant General Returning Officer, appointed under section 8(2);

"constituency" means any constituency constituted under section 4;

"Constitution" means the Constitution of the Republic of

Cyprus;

"day of nomination" has the meaning assigned to it in section 9(2)(a);

"day of the poll" has the meaning assigned to it in section 9(2)(b);

"elector" means every citizen of the Republic who has completed the eighteenth year of his age and is registered in the electoral list:

2 of 86(I) of 1996. 3(a) of 81 of 1982.

"electoral list" means the list compiled in accordance with the Registration of Electors and Electoral List Law of 1980 to 1981 or any other law amending or replacing these Laws and shall include the electoral list as revised in accordance with the provisions of the Laws below;

"election" includes an election of the President and an election of the Vice-President;

"electoral division" has the meaning assigned to it by section 3;

"electoral offence" means an offence connected with an election of whatsoever description held under any Law for the time being in force in Cyprus;

"Greek elector" means an elector registered in a Greek Register;

"poll" means a poll to determine a contested election taken in accordance with the provisions of this Law;

"polling agent" means a polling agent appointed by a

candidate under the provisions of section 25(2);

"polling assistant" means a polling assistant appointed by a Returning Officer under the provisions of section 21(3);

"polling district" means the polling districts into which each constituency is divided under the provisions of section 19(1);

3(a) of 81 of 1982. "polling station" means a polling station provided by a Returning Officer under the provisions of section 19(2);

2 of 91(I) of 2016.

"presiding officer" means, as the context or circumstances may require, a Greek presiding officer or a Turkish presiding officer appointed by a Returning Officer under the provisions of section 21(1) to be in charge of a polling station;

3(c) of 81 of 1982. "President" means the President of the Republic;

"Republic" means the Republic of Cyprus;

"Turkish elector" means an elector registered in a Turkish Register;

"writ" means a writ of election issued pursuant to section 9;

"Minister" means the Minister of Interior.

(2) Subject to sub-section (1), and unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in this Law shall have the meaning respectively assigned to them by the Registration of Electors and Electoral List Laws 1980 to 1981.

5 of 81 of 1982.

PART II ELECTORAL DIVISION AND CONSTITUENCIES

Electoral division

3. For the purposes of the elections of the President and the Vice-President Cyprus shall be one electoral division.

Constituencies.

4. For the purposes of a poll to be carried out under the provisions of this Law, the electoral division of Cyprus shall be divided into six Greek and six Turkish constituencies the area and boundaries of which in each case shall correspond with those of the six districts of Nicosia, Limassol, Famagusta, Larnaca, Paphos and Kyrenia, respectively.

PART III QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES

Qualifications for a candidate. 6 of 81 of 1982.

5. Qualifications for a candidate shall be those provided for in Article 40 of the Constitution.

Additional qualifications for candidates as President or Vice-President.

6. In addition to the qualifications required for a candidate under section 5 a candidate for election as President shall be a Greek and a candidate for election as Vice-President shall be a Turk.

PART IV ELECTIONS

Generally

Proclamation of election date.

- **7.-**(1) The Minister shall, after the coming into operation of this Law, by proclamation published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, appoint a date for the election of the President and the same date for the election of the Vice-President, which shall be the date on which nominations of candidates shall be received.
- (2) The election of President and Vice-President shall take place, under the provisions of this Law, separately.

Administrative Arrangements

Appointment of Returning Officers.

4 of 81 of 1982.

- **8.**-(1) When the date of an election is appointed under section 7 the Minister shall by notice published in the Official Gazette of the Republic appoint for such election a Greek to be the Returning Officer for the electoral division for the election of the President (in this Law referred to as "the Greek Returning Officer") and a Turk to be the Returning Officer for the electoral division for the election of the Vice-President (in this Law referred to as "the Turkish Returning Officer").
- (2) The Minister may appoint any number of persons to be Assistant Returning Officers if a poll is to take place. Such Assistant Returning Officers shall have all the powers and may perform all the duties of a Returning Officer and shall belong to the same community as the Returning Officer, the powers and duties of whom they are to have and perform.
- (3) When a Returning Officer by illness or other cause is prevented from performing his duties, or shall refuse or neglect to do so at an election, the Minister may, at any time, appoint a person belonging to the same community to act in the place of such Returning Officer at such election.
- (4) A Returning Officer shall have an office within the municipal limits of Nicosia.

Writs of election.

9.-(1) The Minister shall, for the purpose of an election, issue writs of election under the Public Seal of Cyprus, addressed to the Returning Officers.

^{*}Note: Section 7 of Law 81 of 1982 provides the following:

[&]quot;7. Section 8 of the principal Law shall be read, construed and applied, as if any reference to the term "Returning Officer", be construed as a reference to the General Returning Officer, the Assistant General Returning Officer, the Returning Officers and the Assistant Returning Officers appointed by the Minister."

First Schedule. Form 1.

- (2) A writ of election shall be in the Form 1 of the First Schedule and shall appoint-
 - (a) the day (hereinafter referred to as "the day of nomination"), the time and the place (hereinafter referred to as "the place of nomination") at which the Returning Officers are to receive the nomination of duly qualified candidates:
 - (b) the day on which a poll (hereinafter referred to as "the day of the poll") shall be taken if more than one candidate stands nominated; and
 - (c) the date on which the writ shall be returned to the Minister.
- (3) The day of nomination and the day of the poll for the election of the Vice-President shall be the same in each case at the days specified under paragraphs (a) and (b) of sub-section (2) for the election of the President.

2 of 91(I) of 1997.

- (4) The day of nominations shall be not later than fifteen days after the date of the issue of a writ of election and the date of the poll shall be the thirtieth day from the date of the nominations. For the calculation of the thirty days period, public holidays are included.
- (5) At an election the day of nomination and the day of the poll shall be the same in all constituencies.
- (6) On the issue of a writ of election notice shall be published forthwith in the Official Gazette of the Republic and in at least three Greek and three Turkish newspapers, circulating in Cyprus, of the issue of the writ, of the day of nomination, of the place of nomination and of the day of the poll; and each Returning Officer shall give further notice of the issue of the writ and of the time and place of nomination by causing notices in the Form 2 of the First Schedule to be published in such places within Cyprus as he may deem necessary at least three days

First Schedule. Form 2.

before the day of nomination.

Nomination of Candidates

Nomination papers.

10.-(1) Any person qualified to be a candidate in accordance with the provisions of this Law may be nominated as a candidate for an election.

3 of 91(I) of 2016. First Schedule. Form 3. (2) Every candidate shall be nominated for an election with a separate proposal in the Form 3 of the First Schedule of this Law. The nomination papers are signed by the candidate himself and his proposer, as well as by one hundred seconders supporting his nomination:

Provided that, the proposers and seconders of the candidate must belong to the same community as the candidate himself.

- (3) Every candidate shall, at the time of nomination, deliver to the Returning Officer-
 - (a) his nomination paper; and

First Schedule. Form 4.

(b) a statutory declaration of his qualifications made and subscribed by the candidate in the Form 4 of the First Schedule;

8 of 81 of 1982.

(c) the emblem of his party or coalition of parties, if he so desires,

(hereinafter referred to as "the nomination papers"). If such nomination papers are not delivered by or on behalf of the candidate at the time of nomination, the nomination shall be deemed to be void.

(4) The Returning Officer may at any time between the date of the issue of the writ and 12 o' clock noon of the day of nomination supply forms of nomination papers to any person whose name appears in a Register. Deposit by candidate.

9 of 81 of 1982. 3(a) of 18(I) of 1997.

4 of 91(I) of 2016.

4 of 91(I) of 2016.

9 of 81 of 1982. 3 of 91(I) of 1997. 4 of 91(I) of 2016.

3(b) of 18(I) of 1997.

4 of 91(I) of 2016.

11.-(1) Every candidate not later than the time his nomination papers are delivered at the office of the Returning Officer in accordance with sections 10 and 12 shall deposit or cause to be deposited with the Returning Officer the sum of two thousand euro (€2.000) or a written receipt issued by or on behalf of the Accountant-General two thousand euro (€2.000) received from or on account of such candidate in respect of such deposit and the nomination shall not be valid until such deposit has been made.

- (2) The deposit of two thousand euro (€2.000) referred to in subsection (1) shall be repayable to the candidate and in the case of his death to his heirs or his personal representative if-
- (a) there is no contested election; or
- (b) if there is a contested election, the candidate obtains votes equal to not less than three per cent (3%) of the total of votes validly polled, and in any other case such deposit shall be forfeited and shall be paid into general revenue.

Proceedings on nomination day.

- **12.**-(1) The Returning Officer shall on the day of nomination attend at the place of nomination at the appointed time to receive the nomination papers of every candidate.
- (2) The nomination papers shall be delivered to the Returning Officer on the day and at the appointed time at the place of nomination by the candidate himself or his proposer or one of his seconders and if not so delivered they shall be rejected.
- (3) On receipt of the completed nomination papers the Returning Officer shall forthwith publish, by posting it in a conspicuous place at the place of nomination, a notice containing the name of the candidate and the names of his proposer and seconders.
 - (4) The candidate nominated by each nomination paper and

his proposer and one of his seconders and one other person appointed by the candidate in writing shall be entitled to be present at the nomination proceedings and there and then to examine the nomination papers of candidates which have been received at the place of nomination. No other person except the Returning Officer and his assistants shall be entitled to attend the nomination proceedings.

Objections to nomination papers.

- **13.-**(1) Objection may be made to any nomination papers on all or any of the following grounds:-
 - (a) that the description of the candidate is insufficient to identify the candidate;
 - (b) that the nomination papers do not comply with or were not delivered in accordance with the provisions of this Law:
 - (c) that it is apparent from the contents of the nomination papers that the candidate is not capable of being elected:
 - (d) that no deposit as provided by section 11 was deposited,
- (2) Any such objection shall be in writing and specify the grounds on which it is based. The objection shall be delivered to the Returning Officer not later than six hours after the expiration of the time appointed for the nomination.
- (3) The Returning Officer shall, with the least possible delay, decide on every objection and inform the candidate and objector of his decision which, if disallowing the objection, shall be final and conclusive and shall not be questioned in any Court of law, but, if allowing the objection, may be reversed on an election petition questioning the election.
- (4) The Returning Officer may of his own motion declare invalid on any of the grounds set out in sub-section (1) any

nomination papers and thereupon he shall inform the candidate concerned of his decision which may be reversed on an election petition questioning the election.

Withdrawal of candidate.

- **14.**-(1) A candidate may, at any time prior to the date of the poll, or, in the case of an uncontested election, at any time before he is declared to be elected, withdraw his candidature by giving a notice in writing to that effect signed by him to the Returning Officer.
- (2) The Returning Officer on receiving the notice under subsection (1) shall forthwith cause notice of such withdrawal to be posted in a conspicuous place outside the place of nomination.

10 of 81 of 1982.

(3) No provision in this section shall constitute invalid the ballot paper which includes the name of a candidate who has withdrawn.

Death of candidate.

15.-(1)In case of death of a candidate the following provisions shall apply:

11 of 81 of 1982.

> (a) If a candidate who is properly nominated dies during and before the conclusion of the poll, the General Returning Officer shall, upon the confirmation of death, by notification, adjourn the procedure for the election and forthwith submit a relevant report to the Minister.

In such a case, the Minister shall fix some other appropriate date for the election and the procedure for the election shall commence anew. Candidatures of the living candidates shall not be affected.

(b) If a candidate, after the conclusion of the poll and prior to the announcement of the final result of the poll dies, the counting of votes shall be completed and the following provisions shall apply:

(i) If the candidate who dies received according to the voting results more than fifty per cent of the total number of votes validly cast, or if no candidate received the above percentage, and the candidate who dies is between the two candidates who has received the greatest number of votes validly cast, the General Returning Officer shall upon the confirmation of death, by notification, adjourn the procedure for the election and submit a relevant report to the Minister.

In such a case, the Minister shall fix some other appropriate date for the poll and the procedure for submission of nominations shall commence anew. Candidatures of the living candidates shall not be affected.

- (ii) If according to the results of the counting, the candidate who dies is not between the two candidates who have been given the greatest number of votes, the procedure of the poll is not affected.
- (c)If any of the two candidates who had been given the greatest number of votes validly cast at the first poll dies after this poll and prior to the conclusion of the second poll, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (i) The General Returning Officer shall upon the confirmation of death, by notification, adjourn the procedure for the election and forthwith submit a relevant report to the Minister.
 - (ii) In such a case, the Minister shall fix some other appropriate date for the election and the procedure for the submission of nominations shall commence anew.

Candidature of the living candidate shall not be affected.

- (d) If a candidate dies after the conclusion of the poll and prior to the announcement of the final result of the second poll, the counting of votes is completed and the following provisions shall apply:
 - (i) If according to the results of the counting, the candidate who dies is the candidate to whom the greatest number of votes is given to be elected, the General Returning Officer shall upon the confirmation of death, by notification, adjourn the procedure for the election and forthwith submit a relevant report to the Minister.

In such a case, the Minister shall fix some other appropriate date for the poll and the procedure for the submission of nominations shall commence anew. Candidature of the living candidate shall not be affected.

- (ii)If according to the results of the counting, the candidate who dies is not the candidate to whom the greatest number of votes is given, the candidate to whom the greatest number of votes is given is elected President.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of article 43.3 of the Constitution, the time and procedure of submission of new nomination paper in accordance to subsection (1) of this article is set by the Minister and the examination of such a paper shall be subject to the procedure provided for in this Law.

Withdrawal of candidate. 4 of 18(I) of 1997.

15A. The provisions of section 15 shall also apply with the relevant adaptations in case of withdrawal of candidate.

No candidate nominated.

16.-(1) If on the day of nomination and at the expiration of the time appointed thereof no person is or remains nominated the

Returning Officer shall forthwith report the fact to the Minister.

(2) In every such case the Minister shall fix some other convenient day for the election and the proceedings relating to elections shall commence afresh.

Uncontested Elections. 2 of 41 of 1959.

17. If-

- (a) on the day of nomination, after the expiration of the time appointed for nomination, and after the disposal of any objections under section 13; or
- (b) as the result of a candidate withdrawing his candidature under the provisions of section 14 at any time after nomination and prior to the day of the poll.

Contested Elections

Adjournment of election for holding a poll.

18. If on the day of nomination, after the expiration of the time appointed for nomination and the disposal of any objections under section 13, more than one candidate stand nominated for the office of the President or of the Vice-President, as the case may be, the Returning Officer shall forthwith adjourn the election to enable a poll to be taken in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Polling districts and polling stations.

- **19.**-(1) For the purpose of holding a poll each constituency shall be divided into polling districts.
- (2) The Returning Officer shall provide a sufficient number of polling stations in each polling district and allot electors within the polling district to the polling stations in such manner as he thinks most convenient.
- (3) At such a poll only the Greek electors shall vote for the

President and only the Turkish electors for the Vice-President.

Polling stations outside polling districts. 12 of 81 of 1982.

19A. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 19 for the purposes of an election and if special circumstances so demand, the Minister shall have the power by order published in the Official Gazette of the Republic to allot polling stations outside a certain polling district and the General Returning Officer shall provide a sufficient number of polling stations which may also be outside their own polling district in order to serve electors in the most convenient way.

Notice of poll.

20.-(1) The Returning Officer shall, at least four days before the day of the poll, cause to be published in such Greek or Turkish newspapers circulating within the polling district as he may think fit and to be posted at several conspicuous places within the polling district a notice in the Form 5 of the First Schedule specifying-

First Schedule. Form 5.

- (a) the day and hours fixed for the obtaining of the poll;
- (b) the full names, addresses and occupations of the candidates and of their proposers and seconders; and
- (c) the situation of each polling station and a statement of the electors entitled to vote thereat.
- (2) A copy of the notice specified in sub-section (1) shall be served on the Greek or Turkish mukhtar, as the case may be of every quarter of every town or village within the electoral division.

Presiding officers and polling assistants.

21.-(1) Each Returning Officer shall appoint, from among the members of the community to which such Returning Officer belongs, such person (in this Law called "the presiding officer") as he may think fit, other than a candidate, to be in charge of

each polling station and control the conduct of the poll therein.

- (2) The presiding officer shall give such directions as shall ensure order being kept during the poll.
- (3) Each presiding officer may be assisted by such polling assistants as the Returning Officer may appoint for the purpose.
- (4) The Returning Officer may, if he thinks fit, preside at any polling station, and the provisions of this Law relating to the presiding officer shall apply to the Returning Officer.

Returning Officer to provide presiding officer with extract of register, etc.

- **22.** The Returning Officer shall provide the presiding officer with-
 - (a) an extract of the Register containing the names of electors entitled to vote at the polling station;
 - (b) one ballot box;
 - (c) a sufficient number of ballot papers;
 - (d) a sufficient supply of pens and ink; and
 - (e) such other equipment as in the opinion of the Returning Officer is necessary for the purpose of the election.

Hours of polling. 13 of 81 of 1982. 5 of 18(I) of 1997. 2 of 1(I) of 2013.

23. The polling hours shall be 7 o'clock in the morning until noon and from 1 o'clock until 6 o'clock in the afternoon and which may be extended by the presiding officer in his unfettered discretion to such latter time till 9 o'clock in the night if the circumstances shall so demand.

Procedure on Polling Day

Facilities to be provided at polling stations.

24.-(1) Outside each polling station there shall be affixed in a conspicuous place by the presiding officer before the

commencement of the poll a notice showing the name of each candidate in Greek, Turkish and English, and the colour allotted to him under the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 26. Such names shall be arranged alphabetically in Greek in case of Greek candidates in Greek polling stations and in Turkish in case of Turkish candidates in Turkish polling stations in the order of their surnames, and if there are two or more candidates with the same surname, of their other names.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Returning Officer to provide at each polling station reasonable facilities for the electors allotted to such polling station to enable them to cast their votes screened from observation and to vote in accordance with the provisions of this Law, and he shall determine, or may authorize the presiding officer to determine, in what manner such facilities shall be distributed among the electors entitled to vote at such polling station.

Persons entitled to be present on polling day at the polling station. 14 of 81 of 1982.

- **25.**-(1) There shall be present at the polling station, on the day of the poll, the presiding officer and such polling assistants, as the Returning Officer may nominate any police officer on duty and such interpreters as the case may require.
- (2) The candidate may, if he thinks fit, attend in person or appoint a polling agent who may be present at the polling station during the taking of the poll.
- (3) The presiding officer shall have the control and custody of the ballot box.

Type of ballot paper. 15 of 81 of 1982.

> 72 of 1979 73 of 1980 16 of 1981 124 of 1985

26.-(1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2) the provisions of the Election of Members of the House of Representatives Laws 1979 to 2017 and the Regulations made in thereunder in relation to the ballot paper shall apply for the elections of the

^{*}Note: Section 26 of Law 37 of 1959 is replaced by a new section 26.

164 of 1985 297 of 1987 107(I) of 1992 71(I) of 1995 11(I) of 1996 118(I) of 1996 101(I) of 1997 45(I) of 2001 56(I) of 2001 209(I) of 2002 226(I) of 2002 3(I) of 2003 7(I) of 2009 31(I) of 2011 36(I) of 2011 58(I) of 2011 75(I) of 2011 87(I) of 2011 165(I) of 2015 180(I) of 2015 181(I) of 2015 42(I) of 2016 82(I) of 2017 91(I) of 2017 107(I) of 2017 108(I) of 2017.

President and Vice-President of the Republic with the relevant adaptations.

2 of 19 of 1988.

(2) The General Returning Officer may include in the ballot paper photographs of the candidates.

Ballot boxes.

- 27.-(1) Every ballot box shall be made of some durable material and shall be so constructed that the ballot papers may be introduced therein but cannot be withdrawn therefrom unless the box is unlocked. The ballot box shall be of a kind to be approved by the Minister.
- (2) Immediately before the commencement of the polling the presiding officer shall show the ballot box empty to such persons as may be present so that they can see that it is empty and shall then lock it and place his seal upon it in such manner as to prevent it being opened without breaking the seal and shall place it in his view for the receipt of the ballot papers and shall keep it so locked and sealed.
- (3) The provisions of sub-section (2) shall apply to every ballot box used during a poll and it shall be a sufficient compliance with these provisions if a ballot box, other than a ballot box used at the commencement of a poll, is shown, locked up and

sealed as aforesaid, before it is used.

Admittance at polling stations.

- **28.**-(1) No person shall be admitted for voting at the polling station unless he is entitled and permitted to vote therein under the provisions of this Law.
- (2) No person shall be entitled to vote at a polling station unless he is an elector allotted to such station:

3(a) of 41 of 1959.

Provided that where an elector is employed as presiding officer, police officer or in any other official capacity in connection with the poll, and it is inconvenient for him to vote at the polling station to which he has been allotted, the Returning Officer may authorize the elector, by a certificate under his hand, to vote at any other polling station in the electoral division, and that polling station shall, for the purpose of this section, be deemed to be the polling station at which such elector is entitled and permitted to vote. Such certificate shall state the name of the elector, his number and description in the Register, and the fact that he is so employed as aforesaid. It shall be withdrawn from the elector by the presiding officer at the polling station as soon as the elector has voted.

16 of 8 of 1982. 2 of 164(I) of 2015.

- (3)No person shall be permitted to vote unless his identity is ascertained by the presentation of the electoral booklet or identity card, his registration in the electoral list and that he has not already voted.
- (4) The presiding officer shall keep order in the polling station and shall decide the number of electors to be admitted at a time and shall exclude any person who is not entitled to be present at the polling station.
- (5) If any person misconducts himself in the polling station or fails to obey the orders of the presiding officer, he may,

immediately, by order of the presiding officer be removed from the polling station by any police officer in or near that station or by any other person authorized in writing by the presiding officer to remove him, and the person so removed shall not, unless with the permission of the presiding officer, again be allowed to enter the polling station. Any person so removed as aforesaid and charged with the commission at that polling station of any offence may be kept in custody until he can be brought before the Court but in any event for not more than twenty-four hours. The powers conferred by this sub-section shall not be used so as to prevent any elector otherwise entitled to vote at any polling station from having an opportunity of voting at such station.

Manner of voting.

29.-(1) Each elector entitled to vote shall have one vote.

(2) There shall be delivered by the presiding officer, or any person acting under his authority, to each elector entitled and permitted to vote at a polling station one ballot paper relating to each candidate who is nominated for election as President or Vice-President, as the case may be. Such ballot papers shall be fastened together in booklet form so that they cannot readily be separated.

2 of 43 of 1959.

(3) Immediately before such ballot papers are delivered to the elector the cover of the booklet thereof shall be stamped, or perforated with the official mark of, or initialled by, the presiding officer; and the number, name and description of the elector, as

^{*}Note: Section 17 of Law 81 of 1982 provides the following:

[&]quot;17. Section 29 shall be read, construed and applied, in relation to the form of the ballot paper in accordance with the provisions of Election of Members of the House of Representatives Laws of 1979 to 2017 and in relation to the procedure to be followed where a candidate because of blindness or any other incapacity is unable to exercise his right to vote in accordance with the provisions of this Law as if, instead of the procedure provided for in this section, the procedure provided for in section 29(7) of the Election of Members of the House of Representatives Laws of 1979 to 1991, is followed."

stated in the Register, shall be called out and a mark shall be placed in the extract of the Register against the name of the elector to denote that he has received the booklet of ballot papers the cover of which has been duly stamped, perforated or initialed.

- (4) The elector, on receiving the booklet of ballot papers as aforesaid, shall forthwith proceed to such place in the polling station as may be indicated by the presiding officer, or any person acting under his authority, and shall there secretly mark with the symbol "X" in ink the ballot paper in the booklet which relates to the candidate for whom he wishes to vote and then shall place the booklet containing all the ballot papers in the ballot box.
- (5) The presiding officer or any person authorized by him may ask any elector if such elector understands the method of voting in accordance with this Law and may, if he thinks fit, on the application of any elector, explain to the elector in the presence of the polling agents of the candidates, if present, the method of voting in accordance with this Law; but in so doing he shall carefully abstain from any action which might be construed by the elector as advice or a direction to vote for any particular candidate.
- (6) The presiding officer, on the application of an elector who is incapacitated by blindness or other physical cause from voting in the manner prescribed by this Law, shall mark with the symbol "X" in ink for such elector the ballot paper relating to the candidate chosen by the elector, and shall cause the booklet containing the same to be placed in the ballot box.
- (7) The presiding officer may at any time while a poll is proceeding take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that no elector delays unduly in any place reserved for the marking of ballot papers.
- (8) During the taking of the poll, the presiding officer shall

cause to be exhibited outside his polling station a notice in Greek, if the polling station is for Greek electors, and in Turkish, if the polling station is for Turkish electors, substantially in the form set out in the Second Schedule to this Law, giving directions for the guidance of electors in voting.

Second Schedule.

Spoilt ballot papers.

30. An elector who has inadvertently dealt with any ballot paper in such a manner that it cannot be conveniently used for voting may, on delivering to the presiding officer the booklet containing the same, and proving the fact of the inadvertence to the satisfaction of the presiding officer, obtain another booklet in place of that delivered up (hereinafter called "spoilt ballot paper"), and the spoilt ballot papers shall be immediately cancelled by the presiding officer.

Personation of electors.

31. If a person representing himself to be a particular elector named in the Register applies for ballot papers after another person has voted as such elector, the applicant shall on taking an oath of identity, which may be administered by the presiding officer and which shall be in the Form 7 in the First Schedule, be entitled to receive ballot papers and to vote in the same manner as any other elector.

First Schedule. Form 7.

Duties of presiding officer during the voting.

32. The presiding officer shall take such steps as he may think necessary for the safe custody of the ballot boxes and ballot papers in use at his polling station on the polling day and for preventing all unauthorized persons from having access thereto.

Closing of poll.

4 of 91(I) of 1997.

33.-(1) No ballot papers shall be delivered to an elector after the hour fixed for the closing of the poll. But if at the hour

aforesaid there is in the polling station any elector to whom ballot papers have been delivered, such elector shall be allowed to record his vote.

2 of 1(I) of 1998.

- (2) The presiding officer of each polling station, as soon as practicable after the close of the poll, shall, in the presence of such of the candidates and their polling agents as attend, make up into separate packets, sealed with his own seal and the seals of the candidates or their polling agents if they desire to affix their seals:
 - (a) the unused and spoilt ballot papers placed together;

2 of 196(I) of 2002.

- (b) the marked extracts of the Register;
- (c) Repealed;
- (d) Repealed.

Procedure subsequent to the Poll

Counting of votes.

34. (1) Each candidate may attend the counting of the votes in person or may appoint an agent (in this section referred to as "the counting agent") by written note to this effect given by the candidate to the Returning Officer at Nicosia, to attend the counting of votes.

5(a) of 91(I) of 1997.

3 of 1(I) of 1998.

3 of 196(I) of 2002. 3 of 196(I) of 2002. (2) The Presiding Officer shall, after the close of the poll, make arrangements for counting the votes at each polling station, in the presence of the candidates or their counting agents.

(3) The Presiding officer, his assistants and clerks, and the

^{*} Note: Section 19 of Law 81 of 1982 provides that:

[&]quot;Section 34 of the principal Law shall be read, interpreted and apply as if, instead of any reference to the General Returning Officer, reference was made to the Returning Officer of its own polling district provided that the result of the election in every polling district shall be sent to the General Returning Officer with the safest way under the circumstances."

candidates and their counting agents, but no other persons except with the sanction of the Presiding Officer, may be present at the counting of the votes.

5(b) of 91(I) of 1997. 3 of 1(I) of 1998. 3 of 196(I) of 2002. (4) Each ballot box shall be opened at the polling station under the supervision and responsibility of the Presiding Officer and in the presence of the counting agents and the independent candidates, the counting of votes shall begin. Upon the completion of the counting of votes, the Presiding Officer shall forward the result of the election and transfer the ballot box with its context and all relevant documents to the Returning Officer of the respective polling district.

5(c) of 91(I) of 1997. 3 of 196(I) of 2002.

- (5) The Presiding Officer shall so far as practicable proceed continuously with counting the votes and shall endorse "rejected" on any ballot papers which he may reject as invalid.
- (6) When the counting of the votes has been completed the Returning Officer shall forthwith declare the candidate to whom the greatest number of votes is given to be elected, if such number of votes exceeds fifty per centum of the total number of votes validly cast.
- (7) If no candidate receives more than fifty per certum of the total number of votes validly cast, a new poll shall be taken, on a day to be appointed by the Minister for the purpose, between the two candidates who had been given the greatest number of votes at the previous poll, and the candidate who is given the greater number of votes at the second poll shall be declared by the Returning Officer to be elected.
- (8) In any case where there is reasonable doubt as to the result of an election the Returning Officer of the electoral division may, either of his own motion or upon the application of any candidate or his counting agent, order a recount to be taken before making a declaration of the result of the election.
- (9) Upon the completion of the counting, and after the result has been declared by him, the Returning Officer shall seal up

the ballot papers and all other documents relating to the election as required by this Law and shall, subject to the provisions of the next succeeding sub-section, retain the same for a period of six months and thereafter shall cause them to be destroyed unless otherwise directed by order of the Minister.

(10) The President of the Supreme Court may make an order that any ballot paper or other document relating to an election which has been sealed as required by this Law be inspected, copied, or produced at such time and place and subject to such conditions as the President of the Supreme Court may deem expedient, but shall not make such an order unless he is satisfied that such inspection, copy or production is required for the purpose of instituting or maintaining a prosecution or an election petition in connection with the election. Save as aforesaid, no person shall be allowed to inspect any such ballot paper or document after it has been sealed up in pursuance of sub-section (9) of this section.

Votes to be rejected.
3 of 43 of 1959.
3 of 19 of 1988.
6 of 91(I) of 1997.
4 of 1(I) of 1998.
4 of 196(I) of 2002.

35.-(1) The Presiding Officer shall reject as invalid the following ballot papers only, namely any booklet-

4 of 1(I) of 1998. 4 of 196(I) of 2002.

- (a) the cover of which has not been stamped, or perforated with the official mark of, or initialed by, the Presiding Officer;
- (b) in which more than one ballot paper appears to have been marked by the elector;
- (c) the ballot papers in which contain any writing or mark by which the elector can be identified; or
- (d) in which any ballot paper is missing, or which is

incomplete, or in which none of the ballot papers has been marked.

3 of 19 of 1988.

(2)Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), any ballot paper containing in any part of its column which corresponds to each candidate and in the space under his photograph therein, one of the marks "X" "+" or "V" or any other mark resembling them, shall be deemed valid.

6 of 91(I) of 1997. 4 of 1(I) of 1998. 4 of 196(I) of 2002. 6 of 91(I) of 1997. 4 of 1(I) of 1998. 4 of 196(I) of 2002.

- (3) Before rejecting any ballot papers the Presiding Officer shall show them to each candidate or his counting agent if present and hear his views thereon.
- (4) The decision of the Presiding Officer whether or not any ballot papers shall be rejected shall be final and shall not be questioned on an election petition.

Return of writ of election and publication of the result in the Official Gazette of the Republic. 20 of 81 of 1982.

- **36.** The General Returning Officer shall forthwith after the result has been declared by him-
 - (a) certify by endorsement on the writ the return of the person elected and shall return to the Minister the writ so endorsed;
 - (b) publish in the Official Gazette of the Republic the name of the person so elected.

Omission to hold, etc, election.

- **37.**-(1) If an election is not held on the appointed day it shall be held on the day next following the appointed day. If the election is not held on such next day, the Minister shall appoint a day on which the election shall be held.
- (2) If the Minister shall appoint a day for the holding of an election under the provisions of sub-section (1), the Returning Officer shall publish and keep published for six days before the

date thereof notice of such election and save as aforesaid such election shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Failure to comply with the provisions of this law.

- **38.**-(1) No election shall be invalid by reason of any failure to comply with the provisions of this Law relating to elections if it appears that the election was conducted in accordance with the principles laid down in such provisions and that such failure did not affect the result of the election.
- (2) Where in this Law any act or thing is required or authorized to be done in the presence of the candidates or their agents, the non-attendance of the candidates or agents at the time and place appointed for the purpose shall not, if that act or thing is otherwise duly done, invalidate that act or thing.

Certain offences at elections.

39.-(1) Every person who-

 (a) forges or fraudulently defaces or fraudulently destroys any nomination paper, or delivers to the Returning Officer any nomination paper knowing the same to be forged; or

4 of 43 of 1959.

- (b) forges or counterfeits or fraudulently defaces or fraudulently destroys any ballot paper or the stamp, perforation or initial on the cover of any booklet of ballot papers; or
- (c) without due authority supplies any ballot paper to any person; or
- (d) sells or offers to sell any ballot paper to any person or purchases or offers to purchase any ballot paper from any person; or

4 of 43 of 1959.

(e) not being a person entitled under this Law to be in possession of any ballot paper or any booklet of ballot papers, the cover of which has been stamped, perforated or initialledin accordance with this Law, has any ballot paper or such booklet in his possession; or

4 of 43 of 1959.

(f) puts into any ballot box anything other than the booklet of ballot papers, the cover of which has been stamped, perforated or initialed, which such person is authorized by law to put in; or

4 of 43 of 1959.

- (g) without due authority takes out of the polling station any ballot paper or any booklet of ballot papers, the cover of which has been stamped, perforated or initialled, or is found in possession of any ballot paper or such booklet outside a polling station; or
- (h) without due authority destroys, takes, opens, or otherwise interferes with any ballot box or packet of ballot papers in use or intended to be used for the purposes of an election; or
- (i) without due authority prints any ballot paper or what purports to be or is capable of being used as a ballot paper at an election,

3(I) of 166 of 1987. shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to imprisonment not exceeding six months or to a fine not exceeding four hundred and fifty euro (€450), or to both such imprisonment and fine.

4 of 41 of 1959.

(2) Any person convicted of an offence under subsection (1) shall become incapable for a period of seven years from the date of his conviction of being registered as an elector or of voting at any election under this Law or any Law amending or replacing this Law, or any Law governing elections of members of the House of Representatives or Communal Chambers of the

Republic for the time being in force.

PART V MISCELLANEOUS

Provisions as to corrupt and illegal practices, election petitions, etc. 5 of 41 of 1959. **40.** The provisions of the Elections (President and Vice-President of the Republic) (Supplementary Provisions) Law, 1959, with regard to corrupt and illegal practices, election petitions and other matters shall apply to any election under this Law.

5 of 41 of 1959.

41. (Repealed by section 5 of L.41 of 1959).

Application of respective provisions of electoral and other proceedings of the Election of Members of the House of Representatives Laws. 21 of 81 of 1982. 5 of 91(I) of 2016. 72 of 1979.

41A.-(1) The provisions of the Election of Members of the House of Representatives Law 1979, as from time to time amended or substituted, or the Regulations made thereunder, shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*-

- (a) to an election held under this Law, if no special provision is made hereunder;
- (b) to acts of corruption and unlawful acts to any election held under the provisions of this Law;
- (c) to election petitions and any other civil proceedings to any election held under the provisions of this Law.
- (2) The provisions of the Laws referred to in subsection (1) in relation to the compulsory exercise of the electoral right to vote shall also apply for the elections of the President and Vice-President of the Republic in accordance with these Laws.

5 of 91(I) of 2016. 2 of 90(I) of 2017. (2A) (a) The provisions of the Law referred to in subsection (1) in relation to polling agents and polling expenses of the candidates shall also apply for the election of the President and Vice-President of the Republic, with the exception of the total amount of the campaigning expenses, which shall not exceed one million euro ((€1.000.000) during the campaigning period.

2 of 90(I) of 2017.

(b) For the purposes of this subsection-

"campaigning expenses" means the expenses carried out during the campaigning period by the candidate or for the candidate by his agent;

"campaigning period" means the period beginning six (6) months prior to the date of the elections and ending on the day of the elections.

4 of 19 of 1988.

(3) Further to the provisions of the Laws and Regulations referred to in subsection (1), each form or statement with the results of the counting of votes for each polling station and each polling district shall be signed by the candidate or his agent, if present and if so desires.

Special Provision in relation to the Elections for the year 2018. 3 of 155(I) of 2017. **41B.** The provisions of the Civil Registry Law 2002, relating to the formation of the electoral list shall apply, *mutatis mutandis:*

141(I) του 2002
65(I) του 2003
76(I)του 2003
62(I) του 2004
13(I) του 2006
123(I) του 2007
92(I) του 2009
81(I) του 2010
44(I) του 2011
36(I) του 2013
174(I) του 2015
16(I) του 2015
44(I) του 215

Provided that, notwithstanding the provisions of the said Law, the deadline for the submission of an application for registration in the electoral list, in accordance to which the Elections of the year 2018 will be held, ends on the 18th December 2017.

7 of 91(I) of 1997. **42.** (Repealed by section 7 of L.91 (I) of 1997).

Regulations.

43. The Council of Ministers may make Regulations generally to give effect to the purposes and provisions of this Law and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, may, by such Regulations, amend, alter, or otherwise vary the Schedules to this Law.

Duration.

*44. This Law shall continue in force until the date on which the Constitution of the Republic shall come into operation and shall thereupon expire.

^{*}Note.: Section 2 of the Re-enactment and Amendment of the Elections (President and Vice-President of the Republic) Law of 1959 Law of 1982 (L.81 of 1982) provides the following:

[&]quot;2. The Elections (President and Vice-President of the Republic) Law of 1959 is hereby re-enacted with the following amendments and shall hereinafter be cited as the "principal law"."

FIRST SCHEDULE FORM 1. (Section 9(2).)

WRIT OF ELECTION

By His Excellency the Minister of Interior

TO RETURNING OFFICER

Whereas by sub-section (1) of section 9 of the Elections (President and Vice-President of the Republic) Law, 1959, it is provided that for the purpose of election of President and Vice-President, the Minister of Interior shall issue writs under the Public Seal of Cyprus, addressed to the Returning Officer: And whereas I think it expedient that writs should be issued for the election of President and Vice-President: Now, therefore, I,

the election of President and Vice-President:
Now, therefore, I,
Minister of Interior as aforesaid, do hereby require that, notice
of the time and place appointed for the nomination of
candidates having been first duly given as required by law, you
do on the day of at
o' clock in the afternoon cause election to be made
according to law of President and Vice-President and that, if
necessary, you do cause a poll to be taken on the
day of, and that you do
cause the result of the election to be certified to me by
endorsement hereon not later than the day of
, 20
Civen under my hand and the Dublic Seel of the Depublic

FORM 2 - (Section 9(6).)

THE ELECTIONS (PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC) LAW OF 1959 TO 2017

Notice of Election of the President and the Vice-President of the Republic.

His Excellency the Minister having issued his writ for the
election of President and Vice-President of the Republic, the
Greek/Turkish Returning Officer will on the day of
20, now next ensuing at
o'clock in the afternoon proceed to the nomination, and if there
is no opposition, to the election of President and Vice-President
of the Republic.
Forms of nomination papers may be obtained at the office of
between the hours of
and daily except on Saturday when the
office is closed at p.m. (Sunday also excepted).
Every nomination paper must be signed by any nine or more

Greek electors for the President and any nine or more Turkish

electors for the Vice-President and be handed to the Returning
Officer between the said hours of o'clock and
twelve noon.
No nomination paper shall be valid or acted upon by the
Greek/Turkish Returning Officer unless it is accompanied by-
(a) the consent in writing of the person therein nominated; and
(b) a deposit of two thousand euros (€2.000) either with the
Accountant-General or with me in cash; and
(c) the statutory declaration under section 10(3) of the above-
mentioned Law.
The Office of the Greek/Turkish Returning Officer is situated at

6 of 91(I) of 2016.

> Greek/Turkish Returning Officer

.....

.....

Date.....

FORM 3 - (Section 10(2).) NOMINATION PAPER

We, the undersigned, Greek*/Turkish* electors do hereby nominate the following person as the President*/Vice-President* of the Republic and we certify that to the best of our belief he is qualified for election as President*/Vice-President*.

President* of the Republic and we certify that to the best of our		
belief he is qualified for election as President*/Vice-President*.		
Surname or Principal Name Other Names Address Occupation		
Proposer		
Seconders (1)(5)		
(2)(6)		
(3)(7)		
(4)(8)		
I, nominated in the		
foregoing nomination paper hereby consent to such nomination		
as candidate for election as the President*/Vice-President* of		
the Republic and name as my address for serving of process		
and papers under the Elections (President and Vice-President		
of the Republic) Law, 1959:-		
Address		
Witness my hand this day of, 20		
Signature of Candidate		
Signature of Witness.		

^{*}Delete which is not necessary.

FORM 4 - (Section 10(3).)

STATUTORY DECLARATION OF A PERSON NOMINATED AS A CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION AS PRESIDENT*/ VICE-PRESIDENT* OF THE REPUBLIC

Qualification of	
of	in the
of	nominated as a candidate for
election as Presiden	t*/Vice-President* of the Republic.
I,	of the
	of
do solemnly and sind	cerely declare:
That I am duly o	qualified to be elected as President*/Vice-
President* of the Re	public.

^{*}Delete which is not necessary.

FORM 5 - (Section 20(1).) NOTICE OF CONTESTED ELECTION

The Constituency of		
NOTICE is hereby given to the electors of the constituency		
aforesaid that a Poll has been granted for the election now		
pending of President*/Vice-President* of the Republic in the		
said constituency and that such Poll will be opened on the		
, at the hour of		
seven in the forenoon and, except for one hour from noon to 1		
o' clock in the afternoon, kept open till the hour of six in the		
afternoon in the following Polling Stations established in the		
said constituency:-		
Polling Stations. Polling Districts. Electors entitled to vote.		
And that the candidates are as follows:-		
Can didata Duan saan Casan dan		
Candidate Proposer Seconder		
of which all persons are hereby required to take notice and		
govern themselves accordingly.		
Given under my hand at, this day of,20		
Greek/Turkish Returning Officer.		
*Delete which is not necessary		

FORM 6

THE ELECTIONS (PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THEREPUBLIC) LAWS OF 1959 TO 2017

(Section 26(2).)

FORM OF BALLOT PAPER

(Full name of the candidate)

Note: the ballot referred to each candidate shall be in the colour given to the said candidate

FORM 7

THE ELECTIONS (PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC) LAW, 1959

(Section 3(1).)

OATH OF IDENTITY

I swear that I am the same per	son whose name appears
as	No.
in the R	egister of Electors for the
constituency of	
	(Signature or thumb mark.)
Before me	, ·
(Greek/Turkish Presiding Officer)	

SECOND SCHEDULE (Section 29(8).)

THE ELECTIONS (PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC) LAWS OF 1959 TO 2017

FORM OF DIRECTIONS FOR THE GUIDANCE OF AN
ELECTOR IN VOTING WHICH
SHALL BE EXHIBITED OUTSIDE EVERY POLLING STATION

The elector may vote for one candidate.

The elector has one vote.

The elector will go into the place reserved for balloting and will secretly mark with the symbol "X" in ink the ballot paper relating to the candidate of his choice in the booklet of ballot papers officially stamped or perforated or initialled handed to him immediately before going into such place, and will thereupon place the booklet in the ballot box.

The booklet as a whole must be placed in the box.

Only one ballot paper in the booklet shall be marked, and if the elector marks more than one ballot paper in the booklet or fails to mark any of the ballot papers, the ballot papers will be void and will not be counted.

If the elector places any mark on any ballot paper by which he may afterwards be identified, his ballot paper will be void and will not be counted.

If the elector inadvertently spoils a ballot paper, he can return the booklet to the presiding officer who will, if satisfied of such inadvertence, give him another booklet.

NOTE

The following observations do not form part of the principal law and they cannot be included in the consolidated text of the Law as a part thereof. However, in view of the fact that they affect the application of the Law, it was considered expedient to include them in this Note.

- The Registration of Electors and Electoral List Law of 1980, (L. 40/1980, as amended to 2001) was repealed and replaced by the Civil Registry Law of 2002, Law 141(I)/2002, published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, No. 3626, Supplement I, dated 26.07.2002.
- 2. The Re-enactment and Amendment of the Elections (President and Vice President of the Republic) Law of 1959 Law of 1982, published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, No. 1824, Supplement I, dated 23.12.1982 contains the following provision:

(1)

"Competences of the Governor.

4. The competences of the Governor under this Law shall be exercised by the Minister."

(2)

"Power of Minister to amend the deadlines provided for in the Law.

- 22. The Minister shall have the power to limit or extent any deadline provided for in the principal law and to make any such readjustments of the forms provided for in the principal law as the circumstances of each case would so require."
- 3. The Elections (President and Vice President of the Republic) Law of 1988 (L.18/1988), published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, No. 2296, dated 05.02.1988, contains the following provision:

"Application of the provisions of the Election of Members of the House of Representatives (Amendment) Law of 1987.

- 22. In addition to the provisions of the principal law, the provisions of the Election of Members of the House of Representatives Law (Amendment) Law of 1987 (Number 297 of 1987) shall apply to any elections held by virtue of the principal law, provided that no such provision is made in this Law."
- 4. The Elections (President and Vice President of the Republic) Law of 1992 (N.108(I)/1992) published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, No. 2761, dated 12.12.1992, contains the following provision:

Application of the provisions of the Election of Members of the House of Representatives (Amendment) Law of 1992. 107(I) of 1992.

- 2. In addition to the provisions of the principal law, the provisions of the Election of Members of the House of Representatives Law (Amendment) Law of 1992 shall apply to any elections held by virtue of the principal law, provided that no such provision is made in the principal Law.
- 5. The words "Governor" or "Governor in Council" or "Chief Justice" wherever found in the text have been changed to "Minister", "Council of Ministers" and "President of the Supreme Court" respectively, in accordance with Article 188 of the Constitution, the Interpretation Law, Cap.1,as amended, and the Official Languages of the Republic (Interpretation)Law, 1993.(L. 21(I)/93).