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Table on the Implementation of Commitments

Summary of Conclusions
From the First and the Second Inter-Party Dialogue in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia
On Improving the Conditions for Holding Parliamentary Elections Belgrade,
14 -15 November 2019

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The table below provides an overview on the level of achievements of the commitments taken during the first Inter-Party Dialogue held 10 and 11 October 2019 and new proposals from the Second Inter-Party Dialogue held on 15 November 2019 in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia.

Principles:

Independent regulatory bodies should be empowered to exercise their monitoring and oversight role proactively and effectively;
A level playing field among contestants should be guaranteed and the separation between party and state activities needs to be strictly adhered to;
Unbalanced media coverage should be tackled;
All reforms should be prepared and implemented in an inclusive and transparent manner.

	Existing proposals	Implementation progress since the first Inter-Party Dialogue	Level of achievement
1	Prohibition of state officials to use public resources for political campaign purposes and for their adequate sanctions for any abuses.	Recommendation adopted by the Government 23/09. Some Amendments to the Code of Conduct for Civil Servants are adopted. Public service (on central and local level) should be informed about these changes. Adoption of the amendments to the three laws governing (improving) this matter in ongoing.	**PARTIALLY ACHIEVED**
2	Measures giving responsibility to the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government (MPALSG) to oversee the provisions to implement the Single Electoral Roll.	**The Administrative Inspectorate** should conduct oversight of the Single Electoral Roll. Supervising the implementation of regulations governing the Unified Electoral Roll through the Administrative Inspectorate has been completed **15 November by extraordinary** supervisions carried out in all cities/ municipal administrations.	**ACHIEVED**
		Regular supervision has been performed in all city and municipal administrations.	**ACHIEVED**
3	Training of officials involved in the maintaining and updating of the Single Electoral Roll and their capacity for implementing the new internet site to inform citizens about the electoral roll.	Drafted plan of trainings. - Ongoing training for Official registrars (5 Groups until 16/10). - Ongoing trainings for Officials keeping the official records book (1 until 16/10).	**ACHIEVED**
		-Dedicated website is online (citizens can check if they are on the Single Electoral Roll by inserting their unique citizen number).	

9		New part of Ministry website with relevant information on the process: - Basic information on the Single Electoral Role - Regulations in this field - Contact persons in charge of legal and technical issues whom citizens and autosized persons may address if they have questions in this field - Two roadmaps clarifying the procedures: for data check and for updating data in the Single Electoral Roll.	ACHIEVED
4	Recommendations that the REC conducts all necessary training in the preparation and conduct of elections including members of polling boards; public inspection of the electoral board activities and their records.	**REC should organize trainings.** REC accepted the draft Decision on Organizing and Delivering the Training for Work in Polling Boards proposed by the Working Group. REC also drafted texts of other conclusions/decisions in connection with the improvement of the election process. Public debate (4 round tables in Novi Sad, Nis, Kragujevac, Belgrade) has been conducted and the draft conclusions should be followed.	PARTIALLY ACHIEVED
5	Regulation of international and domestic election observers.	Recommendation adopted by the Government 23/09. **REC should prescribe provisions** which will govern in detain the observation process. **There are ongoing discussions among on the provisions.** *Once REC publishes the provisions we can see what is accepted or not.*	PARTIALLY ACHIEVED
6	Enabling the access to extracts of the electoral roll after the vote, at the request of citizens.	Recommendation adopted by the Government 23/09. It will be possible in situ, upon a previous request. Implementation in practice can be only verified upon election.	ACHIEVED

7	Modifications to the three laws on Anti-Corruption Agency, the Financing Political Activity and on Public Companies. These should be amended in line with European and international best practices including ODHIR recommendations and subject to full parliamentary scrutiny.	Public debate (4 round tables in Novi Sad, Nis, Kragujevac, and Belgrade) ended on the 31 October 2019. The Draft amendments to the ACA law and Public Companies have been adopted on a Government session 13/11/2019. The draft law on financing political activities will be on the agenda on the next Government session for adoption. All 3 of them will be sent to the Parliament. Their adoption is expected for mid-December. *Consensus on use of Ordinary parliamentary procedure.*	PARTIALLY ACHIEVED
8	Clarify the rules of political advertising within the existing legislation to ensure equitable access, treatment and transparency.	Talks on this topic started in the meeting held 12/11/2019 at the Parliament. It is to clarify if the new proposals and the amendments of the 3 laws give enough clarification.	PARTIALLY ACHIEVED
9	Plan for the National Assembly to organise an open meeting/public hearing with all stakeholders on the role and conduct of the REM including ways to clarify its competences in the areas of supervision, monitoring, enforcement	Measure adopted 10/10. Open meeting in the Parliament was held **12 November.** Invited participants: Representatives of political parties, representatives of REM, representatives of media service providers in the field of television, and representatives of the WG.	ACHIEVED

	and sanctioning during the electoral campaign.

This should result in concrete actions to improve its work before the upcoming election. | **Open meetings and hearings in the Parliament are open to the public upon a prior request.**

New proposals were announced by the REM. (See below in the new proposals). | |
| 10 | Establishment of a Supervisory Board of the National Assembly for the control of electronic and print media. | *To be further discussed and further developed.* | **NOT ACHIEVED** |
| 11 | Appointment of the vacant REM posts and clarification of the procedures for the appointment and dismissal of the REM members; the outcomes of a wide and inclusive public hearing should be taken into account also in this context. | Government will propose candidates to the Parliament. Rules on dismissal of REM do not offer possibility to dismiss them all at the moment. | **NOT ACHIEVED** |
| 12 | Plan to ensure comprehensive training for all officials involved in the conduct of the elections as well as a comprehensive public campaign to strengthen voter education. | Responsible bodies:
- The Ministry for Voter lists/voter education. (ongoing/progress)
- REC for electoral Boards *(to be organized).* *Promotional videos and similar educational material are being developed.* | **PARTIALLY ACHIEVED** |
| 13 | Improving accuracy of the Voter List including by strengthening and the supervision of all laws, procedures and by-laws for the regulation of the single electoral roll. | Ministry trough the training of the officials.

The Administrative Inspectorate should conduct oversight of the Unified Electoral Roll.

Creation of a Working group for verification of the Unified Electoral Roll has been formed. Members of that WG are members of the Government and Ministries, representatives of CRTA, CeSID and representatives of international institutions and bodies.

Development of a Handbook on implementing the Law on the Unified Electoral Roll for the personnel authorised to maintain and/or update the electoral roll.
(underway – a draft has been prepared and a discussion is scheduled for 19 -20 November, invitation sent to local self-governments). | **PARTIALLY ACHIEVED** |

	New proposals		
1	Adoption of the REM's draft Rulebook for Public Media Service providers on how they should implement the		

	existing legislation during the pre-election campaign.		
2	REM should adopt the Draft Recommendation for Commercial Broadcasters and implement accordingly		
3	REM should conduct a constant monitoring of media service providers during the election campaign and publish regular monitoring reports on their website.		

Terminology explanation:
Single Electoral Roll = Unified Electoral Roll = Voter List