



ISFED

April 15, 2010

**International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy (ISFED) will monitor
May 30, 2010 Local Self-Government elections and By-Elections of
Parliament of Georgia**

Media Statement

International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy (ISFED) will conduct a large-scale monitoring of the upcoming Local Self-Government elections and by-Elections of Parliament of Georgia (# 7 Chughureti, # 12 Gurjaani and # 60 Ozurgeti District Election Commissions), which will take place on May 30, 2010. ISFED observation mission will cover:

- Pre-election period;
- Election Day;
- Post Election Period.

Pre-Election Period

During the pre-election period, ISFED central and regional offices as well as Long Term Observers (LTOs) will monitor the entire electoral process carried out by the Election Administration of Georgia. Particularly, ISFED representatives will attend sessions at Central Election Commission (CEC) and District Election Commissions (DECs), will monitor the composition of Election Administrations at all levels, will observe the implementation of pre-election activities and implementation of pre-election procedures within the timeframes prescribed by law. Additionally, ISFED will monitor the pre-election campaigns conducted by the various political parties. Special attention will be paid on the possible usage of administrative resources. One of the main directions will be voters' lists; the process of development of voters' lists will be monitored as well.

For voter information during pre-election period ISFED will produce and air interactive film on elections in 26 regional TV stations throughout country, in order to raise voter awareness and increase voters' turnout on Elections. ISFED representatives will inform society on electoral issues in different regions of Georgia by specially organized TV and radio Talk shows. Newspaper inserts will be made in regional printing media.

In pre-election period, ISFED will organize two types of public stands, where information on voting procedures and voters' rechecking their selves in voters' lists will be disseminated.

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In order to inform society on elections one of the main activities will be bus-tour campaigns. ISFED activists and volunteers will conduct mock elections in 73 election districts of Georgia, where citizens will gain practical knowledge on E-day Procedures, by participating in these role plays.

The relevant information about pre-election monitoring results will become public by the briefings organized by ISFED and by the special on-line bulleting – “Election Update” as well.

Election Day

On Election Day ISFED monitoring mission will cover significant number of election precincts in 73 election districts of Georgia. On May 30, 2010 ISFED will send its non-partisan observers to the central, district and precinct election commissions. At the same time mobile and legal groups will be created in order to gain the most recent information from the polling stations. Those groups will also be obliged to react on critical situations at the polling stations.

On Election Day ISFED will conduct qualitative and quantitative monitoring on electoral procedures throughout Georgia. For this sake, special computer program will be created, which will receive and process data from PEC observers.

During the Election Day, by the special press-conferences, ISFED will disseminate information about the ongoing voting procedures and violations (if existing) at the given time.

Post-Election Procedures

Following the Election Day, ISFED will monitor the whole process of counting and summarizing results at the CEC as well as the processes of considering complaints, court appeals and deadlines prescribed by law.

In post Election period, ISFED will conduct 24 hours monitoring in 25 election districts of Georgia, out of which 10 will be Tbilisi’s election districts and rest of the DEC’s will be distributed proportionally, among different regions.

After finishing the whole electoral procedures, ISFED will issue the final report on May 30, 2010 Local Self-Government and by-elections of Parliament of Georgia. Final report will

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include monitoring results as well as, ISFED recommendations for further improvement of election procedures.

Observation mission (pre-election, election day and post-elections period) and voter information campaign for May 30, 2010 Local Self-Government elections is financed by European Commission (EU), United States' Agency for International Development (USAID) Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), United Nations' Development Project (UNDP), National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and Open Society Georgian Foundation (OSGF).

International Society for Fair Elections and democracy (ISFED) is the non-partisan, non-profit, non-governmental organization founded in 1995. The main goal of ISFED election campaign is to ensure transparency and effective implementation of election procedures also to increase the confidence of the society toward election results. The organization has monitored all the elections held in the country since 1995.

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