



**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF AMBAZONIA  
(Former British Southern Cameroons)**

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**BUEA, 29 OCTOBER 2022**

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

No. 01 Electoral Bill 29 October 2022  
It is hereby notified that the President has assented to  
the following Act which is hereby published for general  
information  
|| 1 of 2022: Electoral Bill. 2022.  
[presidency@federalrepublicofambazoniagov.org](mailto:presidency@federalrepublicofambazoniagov.org)

# THE ELECTORAL BILL FOR THE AMBAZONIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

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## INTRODUCTION

There is the need to hold elections even during our Liberation Struggle as a way of evaluating the performances of leaders of our Liberation Struggle. The writers of our constitution did not include "Election" in it, the absence of which can breed dictatorship. The Ambazonian people would like to continue the practice of democracy which was subscribed since 1953, during war or peace time. The importance of elections, especially at the presidential level is to give both legitimacy (consent) and legality (authority) to the leadership of our country which is under occupation.

Elections make a fundamental contribution to democratic governance. They enable voters to select leaders and to hold them accountable for their performance in office.

The possibility of controlling leaders by requiring them to submit to regular and periodic elections helps to resolve the problem of succession in leadership and thus contributes to the continuity in democracy and governance. Moreover, when the electoral process is competitive, and forces candidates to expose their records and future intentions to popular scrutiny, it serves as a forum for the discussion of public opinion. Elections thus provide political education for citizens and ensure the responsiveness of democratic governments to the will of the people.

The overwhelming majority of Southern Cameroonians (Ambazonians) have demanded election bills to govern the conduct of elections to the presidency of the country.

This law (Election Bill) is therefore intended to provide a level playing field where Ambazonians aspiring to presidential leadership of our struggle can exercise their civic rights in a free, fair and transparent election.

Elections of members into other institutions shall be subject to other bills/ laws (The APP Laws).

## **SECTION ONE**

### **GOALS OF THE BILL:**

#### **The goals of the Bill include:**

1. To promote voter education; Voters will know who is running for the Office of the President and will be given the opportunity to ask the candidates questions in-person, online, by mail or by phone.
2. To guide the Election Commission of Ambazonia (ECA), presidential candidates and the Ambazonian electorate at every step of the way from voter registration, declaration of candidacies, campaigns, voting proper, and to the publication of results.
3. To promote more competition, fairness, improvements, and transparency in our election process.
4. To increase participation in policy-making and universal suffrage for adults.
5. To assess and test policy options and implementation approaches.
6. To identify and manage significant risks to successful delivery of the elections.
7. To provide a voting environment that is impartial, accessible and user friendly.
8. To serve as the Standard of Operation (SOP). This means that anyone with the intention to run for the presidency will be aware of the requirements and agree to adhere to them.
9. To inform, research, encourage analysis, and reporting on the polls and the results of the elections.

## SECTION TWO

### Article I: Conditions for Eligibility

#### 1. Presidential Candidacy and legitimacy

Candidates to the presidency of the Federal Republic of Ambazonia (FRA) must establish the following:

- 1.1 Nationality - be an indigene of Ambazonia whose parents and grandparents can be traced to the past four generations or two hundred (200) years.
- 1.2 Age - be between 35 and 70 years.
- 1.3 Commitment to the Liberation Struggle - be an active participant in a Local Government Area (LGA) supporting the Liberation Struggle; provide proof of at least three years of commitment to the independence of Ambazonia and recognize the Interim Government (IG). Proof via CID, AR-FEE or DRAFT and Ambazonia Communication Tariff (ACT).
- 1.4 Professional, moral and social status - have a reliable source of income and good standing in the community.
- 1.5 Pay a non-refundable registration fee of two thousand dollar (\$2,000.00) to kick-start the new government; and a refundable two hundred dollars (\$200.00) deposit in case of any fines incurred during the electoral process.  
The aforementioned amount should be paid to [www.cid.ambacitizens.com](http://www.cid.ambacitizens.com) using the One-Time Donation option and indicating “**Presidency 2022**” as memo/reason of payment.
- 1.6 Be in possession of valid travel documents and meet all other travel requirements to enable him/her to travel without any restrictions.

Anyone who meets **ALL** these requirements can declare his/her candidacy for the Office of President.

## **Article II: Election Date**

2.1 - The Election Commission shall announce the election date, through official government channels, twenty-one (21) days in advance.

2.2 - The deadline for candidates to submit/declare their candidacy:

Once the date of the election has been announced, potential candidates have one week (7 Calendar days) to submit all documents needed for their candidacy.

## **Article III: Items to submit:**

3.1 - Each presidential candidate should submit copies of the following documents and any others that may not be included here as per Article 1 above:

- 1: - Birth Certificate
- 2: - Names and telephone numbers of three to four references (professional and community)
- 3: - Annual receipts of your financial contribution towards the Liberation Struggle (CID, AR-Fee, DRAFT, ACT) of a minimum of 3 months financial contribution
- 4: - A digital passport size photo
- 5: - An official Identification document.
- 6: - A statement of no more than 1,000 words stating the candidate's opinion of issues facing the struggle and the role his/her Administration will play towards resolving these issues. – Provide Election Manifesto.

**3.2 - The Election Commission has 7 (seven) calendar days from the last date of submission of documents to review, confirm or reject the candidacy of any prospective candidates.**

3.2.1 - The Election Commission shall vet all candidates and provide evidence of vetting to other candidates whilst respecting the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

3.2.2 - All candidates will be notified of their vetting results.

3.2.3 - The Election Commission shall present the candidates to the public and explain voting Bill to the electorate.

3.2.4 The ECA must publish the electoral List which include the eligible voters and their LGAs one (1) week before the elections.

#### **Article IV: Eligibility to Vote on Election Day:**

4.1 –All voters must be compliant to their civic responsibilities.

4.2 –At the Federal level, only the LGA Chair or the designated representative are eligible to vote, to reflect the prior votes of their respective LGAs.

#### **Article V: How many votes are needed to win the presidency?**

5.1 - In order to become president, a candidate must win with a simple majority of more than 50% of the casted votes at the federal level.

5.2 - In case there is no clear winner, the top two candidates will have a run-off election on the fourth (4th) day after the election.

5.3 - After article 5.2 above, if there is a tie, there should be a continuous Voting by the LGA until we have a clear winner.

#### **Article VI: Campaigns and Election:**

6.1 - The Election Commission will provide the platform for candidates to present their manifestos to the Ambazonian people and debate.

6.2 - Candidates have two weeks to complete their campaigns. No campaigns on the day of the Election. All campaigns stop at midnight Amba time breaking to the day of election.

6.3 - Candidates should be respectful to other candidates and should not use foul language or discriminate based on gender, religion, area of origin, or age. Attacking other family members of candidates not involved in the campaign is prohibited. (Refer to the Electoral Code of Conduct).

6.4 - The Election will take place from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm Amba Time, through video-enabled ZOOM.

## **Article VII: Election Challenges**

### **7.1 - Pre-election challenges**

7.1.1 - Pre-election challenges/concerns should be registered with the Election Commission one week before the Election date.

7.1.2 - All registered challenges/concerns should be resolved with proof or evidence three to days before the election date.

7.1.3 - Issues that can't be resolved within the one week after complaint laid, the complainant is entitled to take the matter to the Judiciary for a review.

### **7.2 - Post election challenges**

7.2.1 - Post election challenges/concerns should be registered with the Election Commission within 24 hours after the Election.

7.2.2 - All registered challenges/concerns should be resolved within 24 hours after they have been registered

7.2.3 - If the challenges/concerns cannot be resolved within 24 hours and will not over turn the results of the election, the results should be announced.

7.2.4 - If the challenges/concerns cannot be resolved within 24 hours and they could overturn the results, the results will not be announced until the issues are resolved.

7.2.5 Issues that can't be resolved within the 24hours after complaint laid, the complainant is entitled to take the matter to the Judiciary for a review

## **Article VIII: Results Reporting:**

### **8.1 – Effective Date**

The Chairperson of the Election Commission, in consultation with the Legislative Arm or the House of County Chairs, will proclaim/announce the results of the election within twenty-four (24) hours after concerns, if any, must have been resolved.

### **8.2- The result will be published.**

A tabular breakdown for the President-elect and other contestants will be published. The report shall include:

- (a) the total number of votes cast, (b) the total number of candidates, and (c) the winning candidate and the votes each candidate received. In addition to receiving this information, all other candidates shall also be informed of the number of votes they received.

## **Article IX: Statement of Compliance with Guidelines**

- 9.1 - After the Election Commission announces the names of candidates, each candidate will receive a copy of these guidelines.
- 9.2 - Each candidate must agree to, and sign a statement acknowledging that he or she has received the guidelines and pledge to adhere to them.
- 9.3 - Each candidate should report to the Election Commission immediately any deviations from the guidelines of which he or she becomes aware.
- 9.4 - Each candidate is permitted to have an observer present for the casting and counting of the ballots or votes. A candidate may serve as his or her own observer or he or she may designate an alternate observer.

Observers should not interfere with or disrupt the casting or counting of the ballots. Their role is limited to observing the election process, asking procedural questions, challenging defective ballots, and lodging protests with the Election Commissioners as appropriate.

### **9.5 - Complaints**

Upon receipt of a complaint, the Election Commission will provide the candidate with notice and an opportunity to respond to the allegations within 24 hours.

## **Article X: Electoral Commission.**

The President shall appoint the Chair of the Electoral Commission.



# ELECTORAL CODE OF CONDUCT

## Purpose of Code

1. The purpose of this Code is to promote conditions that are conducive to free, fair and transparent elections, including -
  - (a) tolerance of democratic political activity; and
  - (b) free election campaigning and open public debate.

As soon as the election date is proclaimed, parties, their agents and candidates commit to adhering to the provisions of the Electoral Code of Conduct until the election results are officially announced. Failure to do so creates the risk of a party's candidates being disqualified.

## Promotion of Code

2. Every registered candidate bound by this Code must:
  - (a) promote the purpose of the Code when conducting an election
  - (b) publicise the Code widely in any election campaigns; and
  - (c) promote and support efforts in terms of this and act to educate voters.

## Compliance with Code and electoral laws

3. Every candidate must:
  - (a) comply with this Code;
  - (b) instruct their representatives and supporters to comply with this Code and any applicable electoral laws;
  - (c) take all reasonable steps to ensure that the representatives and supporters of the candidate comply with this Code and any applicable electoral laws:

## Public commitment

4. (1) Every candidate must-
  - (a) publicly state that everyone has the right -
    - (i) to freely express their beliefs and opinions;
    - (ii) to publish and distribute election and campaign materials, including notices and advertisements;
    - (iii) to canvass support for a candidate;
    - (iv) to recruit members for a candidate;
    - (v) to hold public meetings; and
    - (vi) to travel to and attend public meetings; and
  - (b) publicly condemn any action that may undermine the free, fair and transparent conduct of elections.
- (2) Every candidate must accept the result of an election or challenge the result in the Judicial system (**Refer Article 7, sub-articles 7.1 and 7.2**)

## **Conduct of Candidate Towards the Commission**

5. Every candidate must-

- (a) recognise the authority of the Commission in the conduct of an election;
- (b) assure voters of the Commission's impartiality;
- (c) give effect to any lawful direction, instruction or order of the Commission, or a member, employee or officer of the Commission; or the chairperson of the electoral Commission;
- (d) establish and maintain effective lines of communication with -
  - i. the Commission; and
  - ii. other registered candidates contesting the election;
- (e) co-operate in any investigation of the Commission

## **Conduct of Candidate towards media**

6. Every candidate-

- (a) must respect the role of the media before, during and after an election conducted in terms of this Act;
- (b) must take all reasonable steps to ensure that journalists are not subjected to harassment, intimidation; hazard, threat or physical assault by any of their representatives or supporters.

## **Prohibited conduct**

7. (1) No candidate may-

- (a) use language or act in a way that may provoke -
  - (i) violence during an election; or
  - (ii) the intimidation of candidates, representatives or supporters of candidates, or voters;
- (b) publish false or defamatory allegations in connection with an election in respect of -
  - (i) its candidates, representatives or members; or
  - (ii) a candidate or that candidate's representatives;
- (c) plagiarise the symbols, colours or acronyms of other registered candidates; or
- (d) discriminate on the grounds of race, ethnicity, sex, gender, class or religion in connection with an election activity.

(2) No person may-

- (a) offer any inducement or reward to another person -
  - (i) to join or not to join a candidate;
  - (ii) to vote or not to vote, or to vote or not to vote in any particular way; or
  - (i) to refuse a nomination as a candidate or to withdraw as a candidate.

**What happens when you breach the Code of Conduct?**

8). The campaign of any candidate or their representative who breaches the Code is guilty of election misconduct liable for fines ranging from the sum of fifty dollars (\$50) to two hundred dollars (**\$200**) deductible from the refundable deposited during the registration of candidacy, or have their votes in an LGA cancelled.

**ENDORSEMENT PAGE**

This law was drafted and prepared by the members of the Election Committee (Taskforce) of the Federal Republic of Ambazonia.

This Bill has been reviewed and endorsed by the **General Constituent Assembly (GCA APP)** of the Federal Republic of Ambazonia.

The Constituent General Assembly, sitting on this day 29<sup>th</sup> October 2022 voted and approved this law as modified.

Signed into law this day Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022.



Mrs. Marianta Njomia  
President of the Federal Republic of Ambazonia