

**Organization and Procedure of Grievance
Hearing Committees Established
By the Board at Every Level
during Elections Regulation
Number 1/2009
(as amended)**

Whereas, it is appropriate to enable every Ethiopian citizen to exercise his democratic right to elect and be elected by promptly settling disputes that arise in the electoral process while the citizen is engaged in the exercise of these rights;

Whereas, it is necessary to provide for a transparent procedure for the settlement of election related disputes and for the organization of the body established at all levels to adjudicate such disputes on a timely basis to make elections free and fair;

Now, Therefore, The National Electoral Board of Ethiopia has issued this Regulation pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article 7 Sub -Article 19, Article 19 Sub Article -12, Article 20 Sub-Article 5, Article 22 Sub -Article 10, Article 92 Sub- Article 4 and Article 110 of The Amended Electoral of Ethiopia Proclamation Number 532/2007.

Chapter One
General

Article 1. Short Title

This Regulation may be cited as “The Organization and Procedure of Grievance Hearing Committees Established by the Board at all Levels during Elections Regulation Number 1/2009”.

Article 2. Definitions

In this Regulation unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “FDRE” shall mean the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
2. “Electoral Law” shall mean the Proclamation to Amend the Electoral Law of Ethiopia Proclamation No. 532/2007;
3. “Board” shall mean the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia;
4. “Mobile Representative” shall mean a person delegated by a political party or a private candidate running for an election to observe the electoral process and follow the respect of the rights of the organization or the private candidate he represents by moving to different polling stations in one constituency;
5. “On site Representative” shall mean a person delegated by a political organization or a private candidate running for an election to a specific constituency or polling station to observe the electoral process on site and follow the respect of the rights of the body he represents;
6. “Public Observer” shall mean an impartial resident of each constituency or polling station elected by the people to observe elections;

7. "Region" shall mean a region established pursuant to Article 47 of the Constitution and for the purpose of the Directive it shall include, Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa;
8. "Regional Branch Office" shall mean a permanent branch office established by the Board at Regional State level to coordinate elections according to the electoral law;
9. "Grievance Hearing Committee" shall mean a committee established in accordance with the Electoral law and this Directive during elections to give administrative decisions to complaints lodged at a regional electoral office, a constituency and a polling station level;
10. "Constituency" shall mean an electoral district established by dividing the nation's territories in accordance with the law and in a manner conducive for the execution of elections and for the people to elect their representatives;
11. "Polling Station" shall mean a location where voter registration, voting and vote counting is carried out for elections conducted at every level;
12. "Election Official" shall mean a person assigned on a permanent or temporary contractual basis to conduct elections according to the law in electoral offices established for elections at every level;
13. "Complaint" shall mean a grievance submitted in writing to grievance hearing committees or bodies found at all levels;
14. "Appeal" shall mean a written complaint, lodged by a person dissatisfied with the decision of lower grievance hearing bodies at all levels, according to this directive and

the forms prepared by the Board, to a higher grievance hearing body ;

15. "Person" shall mean any natural or juridical person.

Article 3. Interpretation

This Regulation shall be interpreted in light of the EFDR Constitution and the Electoral Law.

Article 4. Scope of Application

This Regulation shall be applicable to complaints arising due to elections held at all levels pursuant to the electoral law.

Article 5. Gender Reference

In this Regulation, provisions set out in the masculine gender shall also apply to the feminine gender.

Chapter Two

Organization of Grievance Hearing Bodies

Article 6. General

1. According to Article 7 Sub article 11 of the electoral law, the Board has the power to give administrative decisions for disputes that arise

- in the electoral process, rectify electoral irregularities and decide on complaints submitted to it.
2. Complaints brought before the Board directly or on appeal shall be decided by it in accordance with what is provided in the electoral law and in line with its own rules of procedure.
 3. In election offices at all levels, the Board shall lay down a procedure that will allow it to promptly solve complaints addressed to it.

Article 7. Grievance Hearing Bodies at every Stage of the Electoral Process

The Board shall establish the following grievance hearing committees at all levels according to the electoral law and this regulation:

1. Regional Electoral Office Grievance Hearing Committee;
2. Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee;
3. Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee.

Article 8. Structure of the Regional Electoral Office Grievance Hearing Committee

1. Every regional branch office of the Board shall organize a grievance hearing committee according to Article 19 (2) of the electoral law.
2. The members of the regional electoral office grievance hearing committee shall be three in number.

3. The head of the regional branch office of the Board shall serve as the chairman of the grievance hearing committee.
4. In consultation with the Board, the head of the regional branch office of the Board shall assign as members of the grievance hearing committee two of the public observers in the region.
5. Members of the grievance hearing committee who are selected from among the public observers shall as far as possible have the knowledge and experience to render a decision by properly examining the complaints lodged before them.

Article 9. Structure of Constituency Grievance Hearing Committees

1. According to the provisions of Article 20 Sub-Article 5:
 - A. A grievance hearing committee having three members shall be established in each constituency.
 - B. The head of the constituency office shall serve as chairman of the constituency grievance hearing committee.
 - C. Two of the public observers in the constituency shall be members of the constituency grievance hearing committee.

- D. The two public observers mentioned above under “C” shall be assigned by the head of the constituency office.
2. Members of the grievance hearing committee who are selected from among the public observers shall as far as possible have the knowledge and experience to render a decision by properly examining the complaints lodged before them.

Article 10. Structure of Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committees

1. According to the provisions of Article 22 Sub- Article 10 of the Electoral Law:
 - A. Each polling station shall organize a grievance hearing committee having three members.
 - B. The head of the polling station shall serve as the chairman of the grievance hearing committee of the polling station.
 - C. Two of the public observers of the polling station shall be members of the polling station grievance hearing committee.
 - D. The public observers mentioned above under “C” shall be assigned by the head of the polling station.
2. Members of the grievance hearing committees selected among the public observers shall as far as possible have the knowledge and experience to render a decision after examining the complaints lodged before them.

Article 11. Removal from Grievance Hearing Committee

1. Any chairman of a grievance hearing committee cannot adjudicate a complaint, brought before the committee, which he has previously seen and decided in connection with his duties.
2. Where a situation mentioned under sub- article 1 above happens, one of the election officials shall be assigned as a temporary chairman to see the case at hand.
3. Where the situation mentioned under sub article 1 happens in a regional branch office, one of the workers of the branch office shall be assigned as a temporary chairman to see the case.
4. Once the case mentioned under sub article 1 has been decided, the chairman of the grievance hearing committee shall resume his normal duties as chairman.

Article 12. Replacement of Missing Members of a Grievance Hearing Committee

1. Where grievance hearing committee members are missing for various reasons, they shall be replaced forthwith.
2. The procedure followed for replacing them shall be as follows:

- A. Where members of a regional electoral office grievance hearing committee are missing, they shall be replaced immediately by those assigned by the head of the regional branch office from among public observers elected from the region.
- B. Where the missing member is the head of the constituency or that of a polling station, one of the election officials of the constituency or the polling station shall chair the respective committee.
- C. Where the missing member is the one assigned from among the public observers, the chairman shall assign one of the remaining public observers to replace the missing member to be a member of the grievance hearing committee; this observer shall be replaced by another public observer on the waiting list who has the highest votes.

Chapter 3

Procedure followed by Grievance Hearing Bodies when deciding complaints that arise in the electoral process

Article 13. Complaints that Arise during Electors' Registration

According to Article 93 of the Electoral Law, complaints that arise during electors' registration shall be decided in the following manner:

- 1. Where a person is denied registration as an elector, he shall have the right to lodge a complaint with the grievance hearing committee of the polling station and get a decision thereon.

- 2. A person or a political organization complaining that a person who is not eligible to register as an elector has been registered shall have the right to lodge its complain with the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee and get a decision thereon.
- 3. The Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee shall examine and decide complaints brought before it within 24 hours.
- 4. Where the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee fails to give a decision to a complaint submitted to it in accordance with sub article 1 above within 24 hours:
 - A. Where the complaint concerns a person who has been denied registration, it shall be deemed to have agreed to the request of the person lodging the complaint; it shall give him a note to this effect and the polling station shall accordingly register him.
 - B. Where the complaint is a protest about the registration of a person who is not eligible to register as an elector, the person who lodged the complaint shall have the right to submit his appeal to the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee within 48 hours.
- 5. An appeal against the decision of the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee shall be submitted to the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee within 48 hours of the time the decision has been rendered by the former.

6. The Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee shall decide the case submitted to it within 24 hours.
7. Any individual or political organization dissatisfied by the decision of the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee shall have the right to appeal to the Woreda Court within 24 hours. The decision of the Woreda Court shall be final.
8. Where the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee does not give a decision within 24 hours to the complaint submitted to it in accordance with sub article 6 of this article:
 - A. Where the appeal concerns a person who has been denied registration, it shall be deemed to have agreed to the request of the person who lodged the complaint; it shall give him a note to this effect and the polling station shall register him accordingly.
 - B. Where the appeal concerns a protest about a person who is not eligible being registered, the appellant shall have the right to lodge an appeal with the Woreda Court within 24 hours, and the decision of the Woreda Court shall be final.
9. The polling station shall proceed in accordance with the decision given by the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee.
10. A complaint concerning denial of registration as an elector shall be lodged until the end of registration of electors in the election timetable.
11. A complaint concerning a protest about the registration of a person who is ineligible to qualify as an elector shall be

made until the end of the date for public display of the electoral roll.

Article 14. Complaints arising during Candidate Registration

Complaints arising in the process of candidate registration shall be decided according to Article 94 of the Electoral Law in the following manner:

1. Any person or political organization denied registration for candidature shall have the right to lodge a written complaint with the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee and get a decision.
2. Any individual or political organization that objects to the registration of a candidate shall have the right to lodge a written complaint with the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee and get a decision.
3. The Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee shall investigate the complaint submitted to it and give a decision within 24 hours.
4. Where the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee does not give a decision within 24 hours to the complaint submitted to it pursuant to sub -article 2 above:
 - A. Where the complaint concerns a person who has been denied registration as a candidate, it shall be deemed to have agreed to the request of the complainant, and it shall give him a note to this effect. The complainant shall be registered as a candidate upon presentation of this note to the constituency.

- B. Where the complaint concerns an objection to registration as a candidate, the complainant shall have the right to appeal to the Regional Electoral Office Grievance Hearing Committee within 72 hours.
5. A candidate of a political organization or a private candidate who is denied to register as a candidate or a person or political organization objecting to the registration of a candidate and who is aggrieved by the decision of the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee shall submit an appeal to the Regional Electoral Office Grievance Hearing Committee within 72 hours.
 6. The Regional Grievance Hearing Committee shall decide an appeal submitted to it within 48 hours.
 7. An appellant aggrieved by the decision of the Regional Electoral Office Grievance Hearing Committee may appeal to the Regional Supreme Court within 48 hours of the decision. The decision given by the Court shall be final.
 8. Where the Regional Electoral Office Grievance Hearing Committee does not give a decision within 48 hours:
 - A. Where the complaint concerns a person who is denied registration as a candidate it shall be deemed that it has agreed to the request of the appellant, and it shall give the appellant a note to this effect. The appellant shall be registered as a candidate by the constituency upon presentation of this note.
 - B. Where the appeal concerns a protest of the registration of a candidate, the appellant has the right to appeal to the Regional Supreme Court within 48 hours.

9. The constituency electoral office shall proceed according to the decision given by the Regional Electoral Office Grievance Hearing Committee.
10. A complaint about denial of registration as a candidate of a political organization or a private candidate shall be lodged until the end of the registration of candidates.
11. A complaint concerning an objection to the registration of a candidate shall be lodged in the period beginning from the commencement of candidate registration up to the official announcement of registered candidates.

Article 15. Complaints Related to Voting

Complaints that arise in the process of voting shall be decided according to Article 95 of the Electoral Law in the following manner:

1. When an elector is faced with a situation preventing him from voting or where there is an objection to his right to vote, he shall have the right to lodge a written complaint with the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee and get a decision.
2. The Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee may:
 - A. Allow temporary voting and refer the case for decision to the Constituency Electoral Office or
 - B. Decide that the complainant shall not cast a temporary vote.

3. A vote cast in accordance with sub- article 2 (a) above shall be rendered invalid unless the complainant presents before the adding up of votes an evidence from the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee or from the Woreda Court as appropriate stating that he has the right to vote.
4. A complaint on a decision given under sub -article 2 (a) shall be submitted to the constituency office before the conclusion of voting time. The polling station shall implement the decision.
5. Any person dissatisfied with the decision of Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee and denied of temporary voting, may immediately appeal to the Woreda Court and the Court shall decide the case before the conclusion of voting time; the decision of the Court shall be final.
6. Where it is decided by the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee or the Woreda Court that a person who has been denied to vote temporarily pursuant to sub- article 2(b) above shall vote:
 - A. He cannot cast his vote unless he presents the decision to the polling station before the conclusion of the time for voting.
 - B. Without prejudice to the provisions of this sub- article (a) above he shall be allowed to vote if he presents the decision when the polling station is closed but where there are electors within the premises in the process of casting their votes.
7. Any person objecting to the voting right of an elector shall have the right to lodge his written complaint at all levels and get a decision in accordance with the procedure laid down above.

8. A decision given under sub-article 7 above shall be executed according to sub article 2 – 6 of this article as appropriate.

Article 16. Complaints Relating to Vote Counting and Results

Complaints relating to vote counting and results shall be decided according to Article 96 of the Electoral Law in the following manner:

1. Any political organization, private candidate or representative who has complaints on vote counting and results shall register his complaint with the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee and submit the same to the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee within 48 hours.
2. Any political organization, private candidate or representative who lodges a complaint under sub-article 1 above:
 - A. Shall attach to his complaint an evidentiary document attesting that he has already registered his complaint with the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee
 - B. The complainant cannot raise a new issue other than what he has already registered at the polling station.
3. The Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee shall examine and give a decision to the complaint submitted to it within 48 hours.
4. The decision of the Constituency:

- A. may order a recount, or
 - B. may reject the complaint by upholding the counting which was the cause of the complaint, or
 - C. may decide against a recount where it finds that the complaint lodged concerning the counting does not fundamentally change the result for the constituency.
 - D. may give another decision according to the law if it deems fit.
5. Any complainant aggrieved by the decision given by the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee may appeal to the Board within 5 days of getting a decision. The Board shall examine the appeal and render a final decision.
 6. A complainant dissatisfied by the decision of the Board may appeal to the Federal Supreme Court within 5 days.
 7. The Federal Supreme Court shall decide the appeal submitted to it pursuant to sub article 6 above within 5 days and the decision shall be final.

Article 17. Duties and Responsibilities of the Members of Grievance Hearing Committees

1. The head of an electoral office at every level shall:
 - A. Serve as chairman of the grievance hearing committee to be established at his level according to the electoral law and this directive;
 - B. Nominate members of grievance hearing committees according to this regulation;

- C. Assign work to the members of the grievance hearing committees which shall be recorded in the minutes;
 - D. Make the deliberations and decisions of the grievance hearing committee to be recorded in the minutes and send them to the concerned body.
 - E. Make every document properly kept.
 - F. Enable a complainant who has a right of appeal to exercise this right by providing him with all the relevant documents.
2. One of the persons assigned to be on a grievance hearing committee shall in addition be assigned by the chairman to serve as a secretary to record the minutes and decisions of the committee.
 3. Members of grievance hearing committees shall have the duty to examine cases lodged before them and promptly render a lawful decision

Chapter 4

The Complainant; Lodging a Complaint and Procedure of Grievance Hearing Committees

Article 18. The Complainant

1. Excluding what is provided for under Articles 79, 90 and 91, the following bodies and persons shall have the right to submit a written complaint at all levels and get a decision.

2. Any person who is denied registration as an elector has the right to submit a complaint to the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee and get a decision.
3. A person or a political organization objecting to the registration of a person as an elector claiming that he does not qualify to be registered as such, has to lodge a complaint with the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee and get a decision.
4. Any person or political organization denied registration as a candidate has a right to lodge a complaint with the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee and get a decision.
5. A person or a political organization objecting to the registration of a candidate has the right to lodge a complaint with the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee and get a decision.
6. An elector who is prevented from voting or faces an opposition with regard to his right to vote shall have the
 - right to immediately lodge his complaint with the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee and get a decision.
7. Any political organization, a private candidate or representative who has a complaint on the vote counting process or on the results has the right to register his complaint with the Polling Station Grievance Hearing Committee and submit the same to the Constituency Grievance Hearing Committee within 48 hours.

Article 19. Lodging a Complaint

- 1 Every complainant shall submit his complaint in writing in a manner that does not entail other controversial issues so

that the body that it is addressed to may be able to give the right decision. The complaint shall clearly indicate:

- A. The date and time of writing the complaint
 - B. The full name and address of the complainant
 - C. The matter giving rise to the complaint
 - D. The solution requested
 - E. List of evidence
 - F. If the evidence includes witnesses, the list shall mention the identity of the witnesses and
 - G. The body against whom the complaint is made.
2. A complaint that is submitted to a grievance hearing committee shall be prepared in triplicate on a form especially prepared by the Board for this purpose and it shall be signed by the complainant.
 3. Any complaint shall be submitted by the complainant himself or his lawful agent.
 4. Where the complainant is illiterate or semi-literate, the grievance hearing committee shall allow the complaint to be made orally in the presence of its members and it shall:
 - A. Give a hearing to the complainant and transcribe the complaint he made orally.
 - B. Follow the requirements of sub- article 1 of this article when transcribing the complaint according to sub -section (A) of this sub -article.

- C. Read the transcript to the complainant and make him sign it in writing or by affixing his thumb mark or if he is missing all his fingers, by making another mark as far he is able to do.
5. Where, after a complaint has been submitted to the concerned body, a complainant, or appellant or his lawful agent notifies it in writing that he will not pursue his complaint or appeal, the body hearing the complaint or the appeal shall attach this to the complaint or appeal and close the case after briefly registering the situation in the minutes.

Article 20. Proof Given for Lodging a Complaint

1. When a complaint is submitted by any person or body to a grievance hearing committee at every level, the chairman. of the said committee shall fill out and sign the form provided to acknowledge receipt of a complaint and give it to the complainant, after first ascertaining that the complaint is in due form as prescribed by article 19 of this directive;
2. The form to acknowledge receipt of a complaint shall indicate:
 - A. the date and time of receipt of the complaint
 - B. the body to which the complaint is addressed
 - C. that the complaint fulfills the requirements of Article 19 sub article 1 of this directive
 - D. the facts alleged, in brief
 - E. the name and signature of the chairman of the grievance hearing committee

Article 21. Prescription

The time within which any complaint or appeal could be submitted shall be as provided by the electoral law and therefore:

1. Where the complaint concerns a person who is denied registration as envisaged in article 13 sub -article 1 of this regulation, the time limit for lodging a complaint shall be until the conclusion of registration according to the timetable for the registration of electors.
2. Where the complaint concerns a protest against the registration of an elector as envisaged in article 13 sub -article 2 of this regulation, the time to lodge a complaint shall be from the commencement date of electors' registration to the day when the electors' roll is displayed to the public.
3. Where the complaint concerns a political party or private party candidate who is denied registration, the complaint shall be lodged until the end of the time for candidate registration according to the timetable.
4. Where the complaint concerns a protest against the registration of a candidate, the time for lodging the complaint shall be from the commencement of candidate registration until the time the names of the registered candidates is publicly announced.
5. Where the complaint concerns a voter who encounters a situation preventing him from voting, or a protest submitted as regards his qualification as an elector pursuant to Article 15 sub-article 1 of this regulation, and where he is

allowed to vote provisionally by placing his ballot inside an envelope until the case is examined and a decision given on whether to annul or accept it, the time for lodging the complaint shall be until the tallying of the votes is over.

6. Where the complaint concerns a voter who is faced with a situation preventing him from voting, or an opposition is made as regards his qualification as a voter, and a decision is given that he would not be able to vote provisionally, the complaint shall be lodged until the end of the time for voting.

Article 22. Meetings of Grievance Hearing Committees and Procedure for Giving Decisions

1. The meetings of grievance hearing committees established at all levels shall be conducted with all the members thereof present.
2. The grievance hearing committee shall render its decision after examining the grievance of the complainant and his evidence, and after hearing the response of the body or the election official against whom the complaint is made, and after considering the evidence submitted to it.
3. The complainant as well as the person against whom the complaint is lodged shall have the right to be heard and present evidence. The latter shall also have the right to defend himself.
4. After examining the case submitted to it, the grievance hearing committee may give a decision unanimously or by majority vote.

5. If the vote is tied, the opinion of the side supported by the chairman shall be the decision of the committee.
6. Where the grievance hearing committee believes that it is not necessary for the election official or body against which the complaint is made to respond to the complaint or where they do not respond, the committee may decide the case by examining the complaint and evidence submitted by the complainant.
7. A member of the committee who has dissenting opinion may have his opinion recorded briefly
8. Every member of a grievance hearing committee shall sign the recorded minutes of the committee's deliberations or the decision rendered by it.
9. The decision of a grievance hearing committee shall contain the following:
 - A. The appellation and address of the committee to whom the complaint is submitted;
 - B. The names and signatures of the member of the committee;
 - C. The full name and address of the complainant;
 - D. The substance of the evidence and/or the testimony of the witnesses in brief;
 - E. A reasoned opinion;
 - F. Steps to be taken pursuant to the decision and
 - G. Date and time on which the decision is given.

10. Every grievance hearing committee:
 - A. Shall examine the complaint brought before it in light of the evidence provided and give a written decision.
 - B. Upon the request of an interested person, it may give him a hearing together with the complainant .
 - C. May summon and question the complainant himself, the person against whom the complaint is lodged or any other person it believes will help it for rendering a decision.
 - D. Upon receiving a complaint it shall inform the person who lodged the complaint and other concerned persons the venue, date and time for hearing the case.
11. Every grievance hearing committee shall promptly inform its decision to the person or body who lodged the complaint.
12. Each decision shall be prepared in triplicate and:
 - A. One copy shall be given to the complainant
 - B. The second copy shall be given to the body that shall execute the decision or the body against whose decision an appeal has been lodged.
 - C. The third copy shall be retained as a document of the body that gave the decision.
13. Each decision shall have a covering letter signed by the chairman of the committee.

Article 23. Right of Appeal

1. Where he is aggrieved by a decision given to his complaint, every complainant shall have the right to appeal within the time limit provided in the electoral law.
2. The chairman of every grievance hearing committee shall have the duty to inform the person who has the right of appeal:
 - A. The fact that he has the right to appeal;
 - B. To whom the appeal should be submitted;
 - C. The time within which he should present his appeal starting from the time the decision had been given by the committee.
3. Every grievance hearing committee shall give the person who has the right to appeal:
 - A. One copy of the decision of the committee;
 - B. One copy of the complaint which is the basis for the decision;
 - C. A covering letter signed by the chairman of the grievance hearing committee to which the above mentioned copies of the decision and the complaint are attached.
4. Appellate committees at every level:
 - A. Without prejudice to the provisions of article 13 sub- article 4 (b) and article 14 sub- article 4(b) of this regulation, shall not admit cases that have not been given final decision by lower grievance hearing committees at different levels.

- B. May uphold, or partially or wholly alter the decision given by lower level grievance hearing bodies.
 - C. Shall promptly decide the appeal lodged before them and shall instruct election officials at various levels to execute decisions given by them.
- 5. An appellate body to whom an appeal is submitted shall decide the case within the time limit prescribed under the provisions of this directive.
 - 6. Without prejudice to the mandatory provisions of the electoral law, appropriate laws shall apply when an appeal is submitted to the ordinary courts.
 - 7. Without prejudice to the provisions of article 13 sub-article 8 (b) and article 14 sub-article 8 (b) of this regulation, courts shall not have jurisdiction over cases that have not been given a final decision by the Board or by election execution bodies found at various levels according to article 92 (11) of the electoral law.

Article 24. Decision on appeal

Where an appeal is submitted to an appellate grievance hearing committee, the provisions laid down in this regulation for first instance committees shall also apply to them accordingly.

Chapter Five

Miscellaneous Provisions

Article 25. Duty to Cooperate

Any federal or regional public institution, political organization, grouping, private organization or individual shall have the duty to cooperate in implementing this regulation.

Article 26 Penalty

Any person who obstructs the implementation of this regulation or violates its provisions shall be punished according to the appropriate law.

Article 27. Repealed Regulations and Practices

Any regulation or practice which is inconsistent with matters covered by this regulation shall not be applicable to them.

Article 28. Effective date

This regulation shall come into force on August 19, 2009.

Merga Bekana (Professor)
Chairman
National Electoral Board of Ethiopia

