

ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

PRESS RELEASE

Election Commission of Pakistan launches 3rd Strategic Plan (2019-2023) after nationwide stakeholder consultations

Islamabad, 27th November 2019 – The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) is proud to launch its 3rd Strategic Plan (2019-2023) as part of its initiative to continue to improve Pakistan's electoral processes.

Following a series of nationwide consultations, reviews and workshops, the ECP has developed this comprehensive third strategic plan document, which will go a long way in improving both the electoral process, and the internal capacity of the Organisation. The strategic planning process began with the ECP's Post-Election Review exercise, followed by consultations with all electoral stakeholders, including; political parties, civil society, observer groups, women's organisations, media, and electoral administrators at the district, regional, provincial and national levels and finally several workshops were conducted in coordination with ECP staff in order to fine tune the technical aspect of the process.

The resulting vision and mission statements, 'deliver inclusive and credible elections that people trust' and 'We strive to hold free, fair and transparent elections that truly reflect the will of the people in democratic processes,' respectively, point to the comprehensive and thorough strategy that was followed in the designing and framing of the document, and the seriousness by which the ECP took to the task.

The vision and mission statements are further elaborated and correspond to the guiding principles of the ECP as an organization: 1) Independence and Impartiality; 2) Integrity and Accountability; 3) Efficiency; 4) Transparency; 5) Inclusiveness; and 6) Service-Mindedness and Professionalism. These are then divided into 11 specific priority areas or pillars, that the ECP intends to focus, work and improve on during the course of the 3rd Strategic Plan.

The pillars are: 1) Legal Framework 2) Electoral Integrity and Public Perception 3) Institutional Development 4) Training and Capacity Development 5) Election Operations 6) Budget, Finance and Procurement 7) Voter Registration and Participation 8) Information, Communication and Electoral Technologies 9) Electoral Complaints and Dispute Resolution 10) Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion 11) Monitoring, Evaluation and Research.

The ECP expects that this plan will assist the Organisation in increasing its capacity, and the inclusive and open nature of the strategic planning process will enable all stakeholders to take ownership of the Plan. This will bolster the integrity, transparency, efficiency and inclusiveness in the administration and conduct of future elections and the overall electoral process.

Secretary, ECP, Mr. Babar Yaqoob Fateh Muhammad said, "Pakistan conducts one of the largest single-day elections in the world. To meet this challenge, all electoral stakeholders form a part of the accountability of the electoral process. The ECP appreciates the invaluable feedback gained from all stakeholders which lead to the development of this Strategic Plan. The ECP looks forward to working with all stakeholders in its implementation."

The 3rd Strategic Plan (2019-2023) can be found at the ECP's website, www.ecp.gov.pk.
