

New Delhi Resolution



NEW DELHI RESOLUTION

**10th Meeting of
Forum of Election Management Bodies of South Asia**

**24th January 2020
New Delhi, India**

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Forum of Election Management Bodies of South Asia
(FEMBoSA)
24th January 2020
New Delhi, India**

RESOLUTION

This FEMBoSA Resolution is being unanimously adopted on 24th January 2020 at the 10th annual meeting of FEMBoSA held at New Delhi, India. The Heads of Electoral Management Bodies/ Representatives of the Election Management Bodies (EMBs) of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka attended the meeting.

FEMBoSA members at their 10th meeting held in New Delhi:

- Reiterating commitment to facilitating and conducting free and fair elections to strengthen democracy and accepting inclusiveness and participatory elections including women, persons with disabilities and engagement of young voters.
- Appreciating the efforts made in overcoming the challenges in elections, acknowledging the constructive and proactive media engagement and importance of strategic planning for EMBs.
- Reiterating the importance of autonomous and independent EMBs and strengthening democracy.

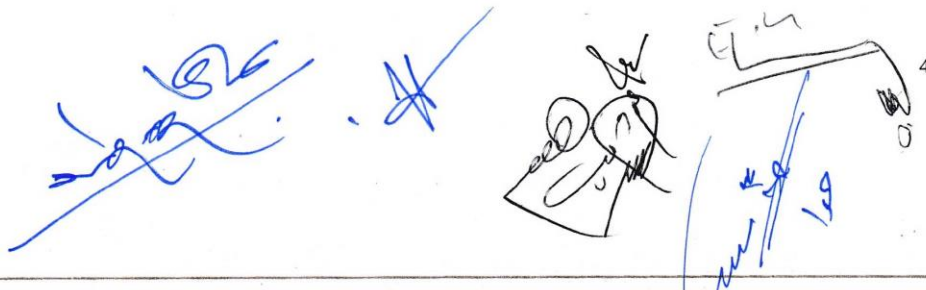
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- Acknowledging the need for equal access of the voters including persons need special assistance for increasing public participation in elections.
- Accepting that the public awareness plays a crucial role in conducting credible and acceptable elections.
- Identifying and targeting of specific voters' groups and providing broad and comprehensive public awareness tools, for obtaining the confidence of the voters.
- Believing that monitoring and control over election expenses of the candidates and political parties is helpful for holding free & fair elections.
- Accepting challenges to women's participation in the South Asia region, and that their participation guarantees the credibility and inclusiveness of the elections.
- Acknowledging the use of technology for various electoral processes ensuring the transparency and trust building.
- Accepting that simple procedures on making objections and complaints on the electoral process could facilitate better handling of the disputes in line with laws and regulations.
- Accepting the impartiality and professionalism of member countries' EMBs on handling the electoral dispute resolution, ensuring the confidence and trust of the people on the election and EMBs.

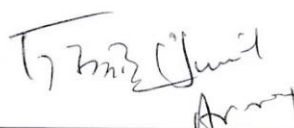





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We, the members of Forum of Election Management Bodies of South Asia, the election management bodies of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka in attendance at the 10th Forum meeting in New Delhi, India hereby resolve as follows:

1. Implement the Work Plan for 2020 as approved by the member EMBs in the 10th Meeting of FEMBoSA.
2. Cooperate in capacity building of the member countries.
3. Host election visitor programmes in the respective countries as feasible.
4. Provide technical assistance to the members as requested and as feasible.
5. Actively share best practices and knowledge in ICT tools and modules being used by the member EMBs and to develop standards for sustainable use of ICT in elections.
6. Take steps to curb use of money power and muscle power.
7. Enhance and ease participation of Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens in the election process.
8. Maintain the permanent content management based web portal of FEMBoSA to share information among the EMBs through the www.fembosa.org web portal.
9. Design and implement regional research projects.
10. Place on record our gratitude to Dr Gulajan Abdul Badi Sayad, former Chairman, IEC of Afghanistan; Mr. O.P.Rawat, former Chief Election Commissioner of India; and Dr. Ayodhee Prasad Yadav, former Chief Election Commissioner of Nepal for their exemplary services in nurturing FEMBoSA.

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Adopted unanimously at New Delhi, India on 24th January 2020

S.No.	Head of the Delegation	Signature
1	H.E. Mr. Sunil Arora, Chief Election Commissioner of India & Chairperson, FEMBoSA	
2	H.E. Mr. K.M Nurul Huda, Chief Election Commissioner of Bangladesh & former Chairperson of FEMBoSA	
3	H.E. Mrs. Hawa Alam Nooristani, Chairwoman, Independent Election Commission of Afghanistan & Member, FEMBoSA	
4	H.E. Mr. Ugyen Chewang, Commissioner, Election Commission of Bhutan & Member, FEMBoSA	
5	H.E. Mr. Ahmed Shareef Chairman, Elections Commission of Maldives & Member, FEMBoSA	
6	H.E. Mr. Dinesh Kumar Thapaliya Chief Election Commissioner of Nepal & Member, FEMBoSA	
7	H.E. Mr. Mahinda Deshapriya, Chairman, Election Commission of Sri Lanka & Member, FEMBoSA	