

CHAPTER 4

THE VOTING SYSTEMS

Section 1 – The Election Committee Subsector Elections

Subsectors with EC members returned by elections

4.1 EC members of 35 subsectors were elected by electors in the subsectors at the subsector ordinary elections. The voting system was the simple or relative majority system, commonly known as the “first-past-the-post” system. There were a total of 22 contested subsectors and one contested sub-subsector and a total of 12 uncontested subsectors and three uncontested sub-subsectors.

4.2 The number of vacancies in each of the 22 contested subsectors and one sub-subsector concerned varied from 10 to 40. An elector might vote for as many candidates as the number of members to be allocated to a subsector/sub-subsector at the subsector ordinary elections, and no more. The candidates elected would be the candidate who obtained the highest number of votes followed by the candidate with the second highest number of votes, and so on, until all vacancies were filled. In the event that there was still one more vacancy to fill and the remaining successful candidates had the same number of votes, the RO would have to arrange the drawing of lots to determine which one of these candidates should be elected to fill the last vacancy. The RO would then publicly declare the candidates as elected at the elections and publish the result of the elections in the Gazette.

4.3 For the 12 uncontested subsectors and three sub-subsectors where the

number of validly nominated candidates did not exceed the number of members allocated to the subsectors/sub-subsectors concerned, the RO would, by notice published in the Gazette, publicly declare the candidates for the subsector/sub-subsector to be duly elected.

4.4 A candidate had to be nominated by not less than five subscribers (ie registered electors of the subsector/sub-subsector concerned), other than the candidate himself.

Religious Subsector

4.5 The 40 EC members from the Religious subsector were returned by nominations from six designated bodies. Each designated body might nominate a number of persons selected by it as members representing the Religious subsector on the EC for a new term of office of the EC. If the number of persons nominated by a designated body exceeded the assigned number for the body, the body should indicate which of the nominees were to be given preference in making up the assigned number and then rank the excess nominees in order of priority. If the RO determined that any of the nominees to be given preference by the bodies was not validly nominated, the assigned number was to be made up from the excess nominees in their order of priority. If the number of persons nominated by a designated body exceeded the assigned number for the body but the body did not indicate which of the nominees were to be given preference, the RO should determine which nominees of that body were to make up the assigned number by drawing lots. The nominees on whom the lot fell were to become members of the EC. The RO should declare the nominees who became the members of the EC as such members in accordance with section 19 of the EAC (EP) (EC) Reg.

Section 2 – The Chief Executive Election

4.6 For the CE Election, a candidate was required to have not less than 100 subscribers (ie members of the EC) nominating him. In accordance with the CEEO, where there were two or more validly nominated candidates contesting in the election, a candidate who obtained more than half of the total number (ie the absolute majority) of valid votes at the first round of voting of the election would be elected. Otherwise, all candidates would be eliminated except those who obtained the highest number of valid votes and, if there was only one candidate who obtained the highest number of valid votes, those who obtained the second highest number of valid votes. These candidates would proceed to the next round of voting. The process would continue until one candidate obtained an absolute majority of votes to win. The RO would then publicly declare him as elected in the election, and publish the result of the election in the Gazette.

4.7 In the event that only one CE candidate was validly nominated, the candidate would be elected if the number of support votes he obtained exceeded half of the total number of valid votes cast in the poll.

