

## 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 voters 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. A candidate had to be nominated by not less than five subscribers (i.e. registered voters of the subsector/sub-subsector concerned), other than the candidate himself. There were a total of 24 contested subsectors and a total of 11 uncontested subsectors.

4.2 The number of seats in each of the 24 contested subsectors concerned varied from 17 to 60. A voter might vote for as many candidates as the number of members as assigned to a subsector/sub-subsector under the CEEO 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 11 uncontested subsectors (of which one subsector comprised four sub-subsectors), the RO publicly declared, by a notice published in the Gazette, that the candidates validly nominated for the aforesaid subsectors/sub-subsectors were duly elected. For the Culture sub-subsector, the number of validly nominated candidates was less than the number of members allocated to the Culture sub-subsector. As such, the RO publicly declared that the candidates validly nominated for the sub-subsector were duly elected but the number of EC members returned for that sub-subsector was less than the assigned number of members.

### ***Religious Subsector***

4.4 The 60 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**

4.5 For the CE Election, a candidate was required to have not less than 150 subscribers (ie members of the EC) nominating him. In accordance with the CEEO, for a contested election, if a candidate obtained more than 600 valid votes in any round of voting, the candidate was returned at the election.

4.6 Where there were only two validly nominated candidates at the close of nominations or 2 candidates remained after the elimination of all other candidates at the end of all the necessary rounds of voting, a single round of voting will be conducted for them. If a candidate obtained more than 600 valid votes in that single round of voting, the candidate was returned at the election. The RO should as soon as possible publicly declare the candidate as elected in the election, and publish the result of the election in the Gazette. However, if no candidate obtained more than 600 valid votes in that single round of voting, no candidate was returned at the election and the RO must publicly declare that no candidate was returned at the election and the election would be terminated. In such case, there would be a new round of nomination and the electoral process would be repeated until a candidate was returned.

4.7 Where there were three or more validly nominated candidates, a candidate who obtained more than 600 valid votes at the first round of voting of the election would be elected. Otherwise, all other candidates would be eliminated except those who obtained the highest and same number of valid votes; or if there was only one candidate who obtained the highest number of valid votes (but did not exceed 600 votes), such candidate and those who obtained the next highest and the same number of valid votes. The remaining candidates would proceed to the next round of voting. If there were only two remaining candidates, only one single round of voting must be conducted for

these two candidates as mentioned in paragraph 4.6 above and the candidate who obtained more than 600 valid votes was returned at the election. Otherwise, the aforesaid voting and elimination process would repeat until at the end of any subsequent round of voting a candidate obtained more than 600 valid votes.

4.8 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 600. Otherwise, the RO should publicly declare that no candidate was returned at the election and the election would be terminated. There would be another round of nomination and the electoral process would be repeated until a candidate was returned.

