

EDITION
N°23

NEWSLETTER



FREE ELECTIONS
NICARAGUA 2021



NEWSLETTER FOR 11TH TO THE 15TH OCTOBER



1. Political Parties and Alliances of Political Parties approve Electoral Ballot.



2. What is contained in the Electoral Ballot?



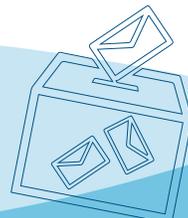
3. Final appointment of Polling Station Boards members.



4. Scrutiny Procedure.



5. Transfer of Supporting Materials to departments.



POLITICAL PARTIES AND ALLIANCES OF POLITICAL PARTIES APPROVE ELECTORAL BALLOT

On 13th of October last, the political parties participating in the General Election to be held on 7th of November, examined and approved the Official Electoral Ballot to be used in the 2021 Election.

Representatives of participant political parties and alliances were convened and met with technical personnel of the Supreme Electoral Council (SEC) to check the electoral ballot and ensure that it's content, the information pertaining to the political organizations and the candidates, agreed with the information provided by the political organizations during the electoral process.

WHAT IS CONTAINED IN THE ELECTORAL BALLOT?

The Electoral Ballot contains the names and photographs of the candidates for the presidency and vice-presidency of the Republic, located in the corresponding box and in ascending order, according to the number of

candidates. Each box identifies the flag and the name of the political party or alliance of political parties represented. The electoral ballot also includes boxes for the election of deputies to the National, Departmental and Regional administrations and to the Central American Parliament. The boxes contain the names of the principal candidates of each of the political parties or alliances of political parties, duly identified by their official flags, logos, symbols and colors.



The Electoral Ballots also detail the measures taken relating to their security and authenticity, thus corroborating their emission by the SEC and affording peace of mind to all participants.

Once noted and verified the content and candidate names corresponding to each of the boxes, the official version of the Electoral Ballot for the General Election of 7th of November was signed and sealed by the legal representatives of the political parties and Alliances of political parties participating in this electoral process, thereby recording its formal approval.

In accordance with the Electoral law, this State body will begin printing of the Electoral Ballot for the 2021 General Election for each of the PSBs, thereby guarantying a Free, Just and Transparent Electoral Process for all Nicaraguans.



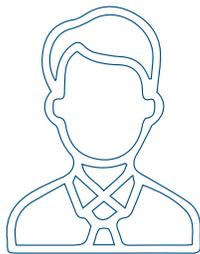
FINAL APPOINTMENT OF POLLING STATION BOARDS MEMBERS (PSB)

The appointment of the members of those PSBs has been completed. In total, 80,754 persons were appointed as members, together with their respective alternates, divided as follows;

Presidents: 13,459 + 13,459 alternates.

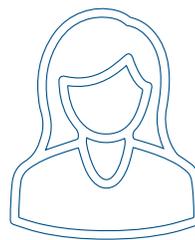
First member: 13,459 + 13,459 alternates.

Second member: 13,459 + 13,459 alternates.



40,377

Women



40,377

Men

Since there is an odd number of PSBs and, given that the definitive Article 26: The members of the PSBs will be appointed by the corresponding Municipal Electoral Council, in accordance with the procedure established by the present law, thus ensuring observance of the principal of Gender Equity and Rotation, so that fifty percent (50%) are chaired by women and fifty percent (50%) by men. In cases where the total number of PSBs to be integrated is odd, fifty percent plus one (+1) must be chaired by women.

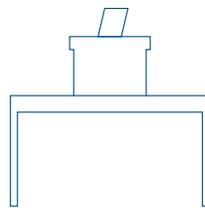
For example, naming the presidents of the polling stations boards, nowadays the country has 6,772 women as presidents, being the same quantity of male alternates and 6,687 men as president with their alternates, in accordance with the electoral law.

Principal Member Charges



40,377

Pollin Stations Boards



13,459



20,231



20,146

Article 26: The members of the PSBs will be appointed by the corresponding Municipal Electoral Council, in accordance with the procedure established by the present law, thus ensuring observance of the principal of Gender Equity and Rotation, so that fifty percent (50%) are chaired by women and fifty percent (50%) by men. In cases where the total number of PBSs to be integrated is odd, fifty percent plus one (+1) must be chaired by women.

SCRUTINY PROCEDURE

The next 7th of November 2021, the general elections will be held in Nicaragua, the same day, at the end of the voting exercise, the scrutiny procedure will be carried out, to inform the citizens the provisional partial report of the scrutiny results.

The scrutiny begins once the voting exercise is over and the closing act is signed, this in the same voting location and in the presence of the accredited prosecutors.

Steps to perform the scrutiny:

1. Check that Electoral Urn is sealed.
2. Open the Electoral Urn.
3. Count the total number of Electoral Ballots and check against the number of persons voting.
4. Classify the valid votes (in accordance with the rules given in the SEC Manual for the Voting Process, for the 7th of November vote).
5. Elaborate the Record of Scrutiny, which must contain:
 - The total number of votes cast.
 - The number of valid votes.
 - The number of spoilt votes.
 - The number of blank voting ballots.
 - The number of valid votes obtained by each of the political parties or their alliances.
 - The complaints or challenges registered by the electoral prosecutors as to the validity or invalidity of votes or any other untoward incident.

6. Display the results of the scrutiny in posters in the polling stations.
7. Once authorized by the SEC, the president of the PSB will use all available means of communication to transmit the Record of Scrutiny, using the Municipal Broadcasting Centre installed for that purpose by the SEC.
8. Take the electoral proceedings to the Municipal Electoral Council for the corresponding district.

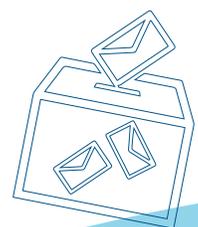


The Municipal Electoral Councils will check the arithmetic totals of votes cast and as well as the scrutiny proceedings.

The municipal electoral councils may not open bags or packets containing electoral ballots arriving from the PSBs, except in cases - duly justified under Electoral Law 331 - where a determined election has been challenged or appealed in a particular PSB, thus implicating the scrutiny of the process and calling into question the will of the voters.

The electoral review minutes will be prepared by Departmental and Regional Electoral Councils, with copies forwarded with immediate effect to the SEC. Such copies must fulfill the requirements indicated for the Closing and Voting Minutes in the PSBs, whichever may be pertinent.

Once in possession of the final results of the vote count and checks, the SEC will make the final count and proceed according to that decreed by Title XI, Result of the Election, of Electoral law 331.



TRANSFER OF SUPPORTING MATERIALS TO DEPARTMENTS



The supporting or auxiliary materials are those supplies and instruments required to ensure the successful development of the electoral process in each of the polling stations, these including training manuals, exercise books, armbands and packets of health protection items such as surgical masks and alcohol, for use in each of the PSBs.



The SEC has started to transfer the auxiliary materials to the departments.

The Caribbean Coast and remaining departments of Nicaragua have been in receipt of these materials since 11th of October. Said materials are stored and cared for by the National Police and the Nicaraguan Army in electoral warehouses, designated for this purpose by the SEC, from the date of their entry into Nicaragua until 7th of November.





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NICARAGUA