

Welcome to our Election Newsletter; which brings you news from across the National Election Commission of Korea and information on Korean election system. This December 2010 Election Newsletter is the first printed version of our e-Election Newsletter, containing the news covered in the first and second edition of e-Election Newsletter, as well as the latest news

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Letter from NEC



As the end of the year 2010 approaches, I would like to first and foremost extend my warm appreciation and greetings to all Election Newsletter readers. I wish you all a Happy New Year and all the best in 2011.

The 3rd edition of Newsletter is a comprehensive special edition, reflecting on what we have done, and wrapping up the year 2010. You can find various pieces of election news, including the details of the 5th Nationwide Local Elections, the by-elections in the first and second half of 2010. You can also gain in-depth information about the voting rights in local elections and the investigatory authority of the National Election Commission. NEC's various activities in civic education and international exchanges are also included.

Since its foundation in 1963, the NEC has expanded the scope of its work. At the first stage, the NEC focused on the administration of electoral processes. At the second stage, it has endeavored to establish fair and transparent elections by bolstering surveillance and monitoring of electoral law violations. At the third stage, it has been committed to promoting civic education to raise voters' awareness. The civic education is vital as fair and transparent elections cannot be established until voters themselves recognize the importance of political participation and make an informed decision based on policies and their political views. We would like to share such thoughts and experiences with other election commissions and officers, who also have strived for the development of democracy.

Last but not least, I would like to ask for your continued support and interest in Election Newsletter, which would give us the greater stimulus to keep making more resourceful and useful newsletter. Once again, I wish you all good health and happiness for the New Year.



Lee, Jong-Woo

Secretary General
National Election Commission, Korea





Election News

1. The 5th Nationwide Local Elections
2. By-elections in the first half of 2010
3. By-elections in the second half of 2010

Election Newsletter



1. The 5th Nationwide Local Elections

Koreans nationwide went to the polls on June 2, 2010, to elect mayors, provincial governors, local councilmen and education superintendents in the 5th Nationwide Local Elections.

[Election Day]

In Korea, local elections are held in every four years. According to Article 34 of the Public Official Election Act, local elections caused by the expiration of the term of offices are held on the first Wednesday from the 30th day before a predecessor's term expires. That made the 5th nationwide local elections held on June 2, 2010.



[Types of Elections]

* Elections for Public Offices (6):

- Head of Si/Do Government (Province level);
- District and proportional representatives of Si/Do Council;
- Head of Gu/Si/Gun Government (City/Town level);
- District and proportional representatives of Gu/Si/Gun Council; and

* Elections for Public Education Offices (2):

- Superintendent of Education; and
- Members of Education Committee.

In 2006, the elections for Superintendent of Education and members of Education Committee were held separately from those of other local elections. However, a revision was made to the Local Education Autonomy Act in 2010, resulting in the eight elections taking place on the same day.

[The number of voters and absentees]

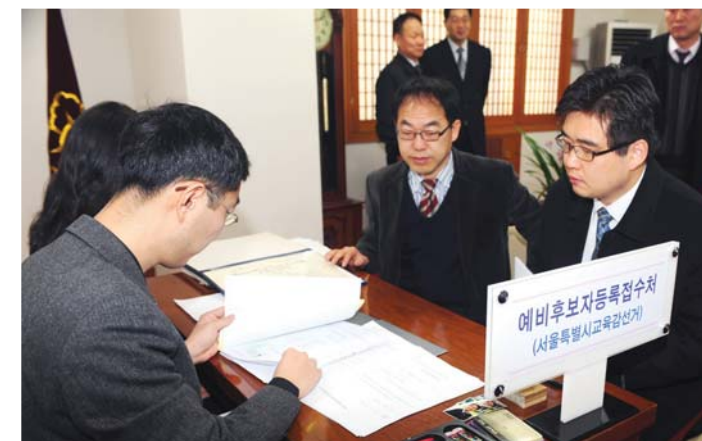
In local elections, the eligible voters qualified to cast a vote are as follows:

- Any person aged 19 or over whose resident registration is recorded in the relevant local government;
- Any overseas citizens who have reported domestic domicile in the relevant local government;
- Any foreigners who have reported to the relevant local government provided that they have lived in Korea more than three years after obtaining the permanent residency.

The total number of voters was 38,851,159, a 4.8% increase compared to that of the 4th local elections.

In pursuant to the Public Official Election Act, voters who are unable to cast a vote in person on Election Day are allowed to make an absentee vote. The number of people who made report to cast an absentee ballot was 932,001, a 4.2% increase from the 4th local elections.

[Candidate registration]



In total, 10,020 candidates registered in the race in the 5th Nationwide Local Elections. However, 85 candidates resigned after registration, and 23 registrations were made invalid for various reasons including disqualification. In the end, the number of candidates registered was 9,912. The average competition rate was 2.5:1, which is lower than that of 3.2:1 in the 4th local elections. The

specific information on candidate registration and the competition rate is as follows.

Classification	Number of Post	Candidate Registration			Competition Rate
		Total	Registration	Resignation and Invalid Registration	
Total	3,991	10,020	9,912	108	2.5:1
Head of Si/Do Government	16	58	55	3	3.4:1
Head of Gu/Si/Gun Government	228	780	749	31	3.3:1
Members of Si/Do Council	761	2,046	2,030	16	2.7:1
Members of Gu/Si/Gun Council	2,888	6,781	6,735	46	2.3:1
Superintendent of Education	16	81	74	7	4.6:1
Members of Education Committee	82	274	269	5	3.3:1

[Campaign booklets and posters]



As the eight elections were held simultaneously, the number of official campaign booklets sent to voters as well as that of posters put up in the streets set a new record in the 5th Nationwide Local Elections. 1,009,300 posters were put up in 46,619 places and 19million campaign leaflets were sent to households.

The proportion of candidates who submitted Braille-type leaflet increased from 18.5% in the 4th local elections to 24% in the 5th Nationwide Local Elections. Braille-type election campaign leaflet was introduced to meet the blind voters' right to know. 2,405 candidates, a quarter of the total registered candidates, submitted Braille-type campaign leaflet. The Korean electoral statutory does not oblige the candidates to produce Braille type campaign leaflet, but the NEC encouraged it by providing national subsidy for the full cost associated with leaflet production.



[Management of voting and counting]

The polling hours were from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 13,388 polling places nationwide. The number of poll workers mobilized for polling administrative work was 229,593.

In Korea, polling places are set up in buildings which are rent temporarily for the election. In the 2008 National Assembly elections, some polling places were set up in religious institutions, provoking discontent of voters. For this reason, religious institutions were discouraged from being used for polling places except for inevitable reasons, so only 18 polling places were set up in buildings normally used as religious institutions.

In addition, to encourage the voting of disabled people, 12,461 polling places (93% of total) were set up on the first floor of the buildings. Where polling places were set up on the second floor, elevator access was available.



Vote by celebrity ambassadors (K-pop group KARA)



An absentee vote

The average time for counting management was 10 hours and 9 minutes. Compared to the 4th local elections where the average counting hours was 9 hours and 10 minutes with only six elections taking place, the counting process was performed in a relatively short period of time.



Vote counting

[The Election Results by political parties]

The number of the elected according to political parties is as shown in the table below. According to the Act on Educational Autonomy, candidates cannot be endorsed by political parties in case of elections for Superintendent and members of Education Committee. So all the elected appeared in the Superintendent and Education Committee members are independents.

Classification	Total	Grand National Party	Democratic Party	Liberty Forward Party	Democratic Labour Party	Creative Korea Party	Solidarity for New Progressive Party	People First union	People's Participation Party	Future Hope Alliance	Pro-Park Alliance	Independent
Total	3,991 (100)	1,623 (40.7)	1,484 (37.2)	172 (4.3)	142 (3.6)	1 (0)	25 (0.6)	3 (0)	29 (0.7)	13 (0.3)	22 (0.6)	477 (12.0)
Head of Si/Do Government	16	6	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Head of Gu/Si/Gun Government	228	82	92	13	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	36
Members of Si/Do Council	761	288	360	41	24	0	3	0	5	1	3	36
Members of Gu/Si/Gun Council	2,888	1,247	1,025	117	115	1	22	2	24	11	19	305
Superintendent of Education	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Members of Education Committee	82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	82

The Grand Nation Party, the ruling party, won the Democratic Party by a narrow margin by gaining 40.7% of the winning numbers. The Liberty Forward Party and the Democratic Labour Party followed by obtaining 4.3% and 3.6% respectively.



Certificate of Election for the winning candidate

[Reimbursement of election expenses]

Article 116 of the Constitution of the Republic of Korea explicitly states the principle of public management of election, stipulating that 'Except as otherwise prescribed by law, expenditures for elections are not imposed on political parties or candidates'. Accordingly, the Public Official Election Act also has the provision of election expenses reimbursement specified in Article 122-2.

According to this article, in the 5th Nationwide Local Elections. within the limit of total election expenses publicly notified, election expenses have been reimbursed by July 30 according to the matrix below:

- 1) Where a candidate has been elected or deceased, or where the number of votes obtained by a candidate has been 15/100 or more of the total number of valid ballots, the whole amount of election expenses paid by a candidate are reimbursed; and
- 2) Where the number of votes obtained by a candidate has been not less than 10/100 but less than 15/100 of the total number of valid ballots; the amount equivalent to 50/100 of election expenses paid by a candidate are reimbursed.

Some election expenses excluded from reimbursement are those; paid in capacity as pre-candidates; paid for the election campaign violating the Public Official Election Act; or not reported in an accounting report.

In the 5th Nationwide Local Elections. Gu/Si/Gun local Election Commission (ECs) received reimbursement request of election expenses from candidates' treasurers until June 12, and went into strict scrutiny of those financial reports to see if there were expenses not qualified for reimbursement. In the 5th Nationwide Local Elections. the number of candidates who received reimbursement was 7,291, and the total reimbursement amount was KRW 339.45 billion.

The table below shows the reimbursement amount paid. (Paid to qualified candidates on July 30)

(unit: Million KRW)

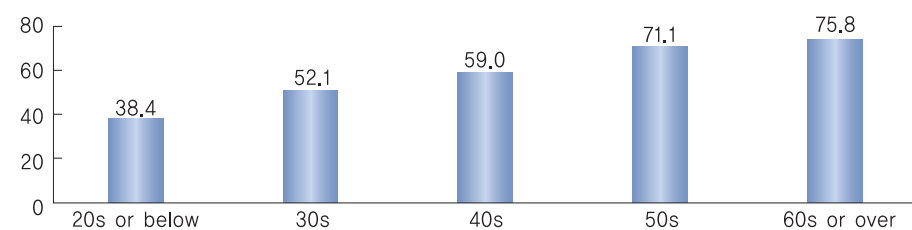
Election type	Campaign expense ceiling (average A)	Reimbursement request (B)		Reimbursement ceiling (C)		Reimbursement paid (D=B-C)		Average reimbursement rate(%)		
		Total	Average	Total	Average	Total	Average	Ratio against the ceiling (D/A)	Ratio against the request (D/B)	
Head of Si/Do Government	1,563	43,285	1,139	4,429	117	38,856	1,022	65.5	89.7	
Representatives of Si/Do Council	Proportional	218	6,796	166	487	12	6,309	154	70.6	92.8
	District	53	62,895	40	12,355	8	50,540	32	60.4	80.0
Head of Gu/Si/Gun Government	165	70,500	124	11,915	21	58,585	103	62.4	83.1	
Representatives of Gu/Si/Gun Council	Proportional	51	9,873	33	1,256	4	8,617	29	56.9	87.9
	District	45	137,354	31	38,544	9	98,810	23	51.1	74.2
Superintendent	1,563	66,098	1,180	13,036	233	53,062	947	60.7	80.2	
Members of Election Committee	248	31,984	124	7,313	28	24,671	96	38.7	77.4	
Total		428,785		89,335		339,450		61.6	84.9	

[Survey on voter perception regarding the 5th nationwide local elections]

The NEC conducted a survey on 1,500 voters from June 3 to 24 to evaluate the degree of fairness over the general election and voters' awareness of the newly introduced systems such as one-voter-eight-ballots system.

Among those answered, about 91.5% of voters responded that the fairness of the election was average or better reached 91.5%. It shows that the fairness of the election was slightly improved, compared to that of 89% in the 18th National Assembly elections and 89.9% of the 17th Presidential election. The survey on the factors contributing to the fairer election revealed that 32% thought that awareness of voters was improved, while 21.5% attributed it to the role of ECs. It is an indication that the efforts of ECs for transparent and fair elections are bearing fruits.

The voter turnout by age group is as follows. What stands out is that voter turnouts for those in their 20s and below (38.4%) and in their 30s (52.1%) increased by 10.7%, 9%, respectively, from the 2008 National Assembly election. It may reflect multi-faceted efforts of ECs to boost young generation's participation in elections whose low interest and participation in the election were supposed to be the main reason for low voter turnout.



[Survey on the satisfaction with NEC's legal information service]

The NEC conducted a survey on 1,000 election officers from June 9 to 11 about the satisfaction level with NEC's legal information service. The survey was carried out on such items as the satisfaction with NEC's legal information, kindness of the NEC staff, preference among information materials, and convenience of usage.

According to the survey, 71% of election officers were satisfied with the information service, 76.3% viewed the NEC staff were kind, indicating overall satisfaction with legal information service.

For the preference of statutory information materials, telephone call and guidance book both received about 40% of responses, while the NEC website received 10%. In addition, most respondents said that obtaining statutory information service through telephone call or F&Q section of the NEC website was convenient, giving strong impetus for continued legal information service in next elections.



2. By-elections in the first half of 2010

In Korea, by-elections are simultaneously held twice a year, on April and on October, to fill the vacant official positions caused by invalidated elections, imprisonment, resignation or death of the elected. Exceptionally, in the year of the nationwide local elections, schedule for by-election is prescribed to be held on the first Wednesday from 50 days after the day of local elections. Accordingly, the by-elections in the first half of 2010 were carried out on July 28 to elect eight representatives for the National Assembly.



Promotion of the by-elections on July 28

* Schedule of the Election Management
Schedule for the by-elections is as follows.

Month	Day	Duties
July	9~13	Making voters lists and applying for absentee voting
July	13~14	The candidate registration period
July	~ 17	Candidates are required to submit their campaign posters to the relevant ECs
July	19	The ballots and voting guide leaflet were sent to the absentee voters
July	21	The voters list for the by-elections is confirmed
July	28	The Election Day



* Results of the By-elections
The average competition rate of the by-elections was 3.6:1 with a variety in each constituency: 7:1 in Seoul Eunpyeong-gu; 4:1 in Incheon Gyeong-gu Eul; 2:1 in Gwangju Nam-gu; 3:1 in Gangwon Wonju-si; and 3:1 in Chungnam Cheonan-si Eul.

Since Election Day was in the middle of summer vacation period, the NEC expressed concerns about a decrease in turnout. However, the average turnout recorded 34.1%, higher than expected.

3. By-elections in the second half of 2010

The by-elections in the second half of 2010 took place on October 27. The elections were called for the seats that were made vacant from June 29 to September 30 in six electoral districts. Two elections were held for the heads of local governments, while four elections were to elect local council members.

* Schedule of the Election Management
Schedule for the by-elections is as follows.

Month	Day	Duties
October	8-12	Application for absentee voting
October	12-13	The Candidate registration period
October	14-26	Election campaign
October	27	The Election Day

* Polling Hours - From 6 am to 8 pm (two hours longer than the election upon the expiration of term)



The ceremony of promising policy-oriented fair election

* Results of the By-elections
There were 23 candidates registered in six electoral districts, recording the average competition rate of 3.83:1. The number of candidates registered in each electoral district is shown in the table below.

Total	Seo-gu, Gwangju (head of Gu/Si/Gun)	Uiryeong-gun, Gyeongsangnam- do(head of Gu/Si/Gun)	Geochanggun(2), Gyeongsangnam- do(members of Si/Do Council)	Sasang-gu(Na) (members of Gu/Si/Gun Council)	Sasang-gu(Ra) (members of Gu/Si/Gun Council)	Gokseonggun(Ga) (members of Gu/Si/Gun Council)
23	4	3	5	5	3	5

The NEC encouraged relevant local ECs to implement election management measures tailored for the distinct condition of each election and local peculiarity, and to take thorough preventive measures to fend off any irregularities. In addition, the NEC provided guidance to candidates and election officers in advance to prevent the violation of election laws being committed. Defamation and influence of money were particularly looked out.

For the by-elections, there were concerns about lower voter turnout. However, each EC ran various events to increase the voter's interest in the elections. Also, measures such as installing a temporary inclined road to enable people with disabilities to move in a wheelchair and assigning polling assistants helped to raise the average voter turnout to 30.9%, a 6.1% increase from 24.8% recorded in the by-elections for National Assembly members in 2006.



III

Election System Briefing

1. Eligible voters in local elections
2. Investigatory Authority on election crimes



1. Eligible voters in local elections

Local elections in which the representatives of residents are elected have larger pool of eligible voters than that of Presidential election or National Assembly elections in which the representatives of the Korean people are elected. More details about the pool of eligible voters in local elections are as explained below.

[Residents are entitled to vote in local elections]

Compared to the elections for President and National Assembly members, local elections allow broader pool of voters to cast their votes, where foreigners are also entitled to vote. The Public Official Election Act defines eligible voters in local elections as follows:

Any person aged 19 or above who falls under any of the following subparagraphs as of 'the basis date of preparation of the electoral register (May 14 in the 5th Nationwide Local Elections)' shall have a right to vote.

- * Any person whose resident registration is recorded in the relevant local government;
- * Any overseas Koreans who reported domestic domicile to the relevant local government pursuant to Article 6(1) of the Act on the Immigration and Legal Status of Overseas Koreans; and
- * Any foreigners who have reported to the relevant local government pursuant to Article 34 of the Immigration Control Act, provided that three years has passed after the acquisition date of qualification for permanent residence under Article 10 of the same Act.

※ To be enrolled on the list of reporters of domestic domicile

Report to the head of Immigration Control Office(ICO) in his/her residence → The ICO sends a report file of domestic domicile to the head of Si/Gu/Gun government → Be enrolled on the list of reporters of domestic domicile

※ To be enrolled on the register of foreigners

Report to the head of Immigration Control Office in his/her stay → The ICO sends a report file of registration of foreigners to the head of Si/Gu/Gun government → Be enrolled on the register of foreigners

* Residents who moved their resident registration after May 15(in the 5th Nationwide Local Elections) should cast their vote in the previous residence as recorded on the voters list.

[False resident registration is subject to punishment according to electoral law]

Because resident registration is a requirement for voting rights, there sometimes occur false registrations of people who do not reside in the district for the purpose of false voting.

* Article 247(1) of the Public Official Election Act states that;

Any person who has been listed on the electoral register in a deceitful way, such as making a false report on the resident registration with the intention of casting the vote at a specific election district, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than three years or by a fine not exceeding five million won.

* According to court, once a false resident registration is made with the intention of voting in the election district, the claim of crime against the Public Official Election Act is established even if there were purposes other than voting.

In cooperation with the local governments, ECs conduct a field investigation when the number of influx of residents surges without any particular reason or in certain period of time, multiple residents move in to the same household or street address, or when there is a move-in into the building where people are unable to reside or no street address exists.

[Overseas Koreans with domestic domicile reported]

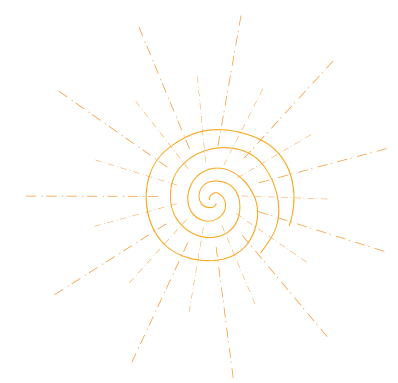
Overseas Koreans who emigrated had not been able to cast a ballot. However, the provision of the Public Official Election Act, which granted voting rights only to nationals with residence registration recorded, was overruled as unconstitutional in 2007, ensuring the suffrage of overseas Koreans.

In local elections, Korean nationals living overseas can not vote while abroad. However, they can vote in domestic residence if they are enrolled on the list of reporters of the domestic domicile of the relevant local government. As of now, the number of people listed on the reporters of domestic domicile is 59,000.

[Foreigners]

In local elections where the representatives of local government are elected, foreigners who meet certain requirements are allowed to cast their ballot, as a community member. Foreigners cast their ballots for the first time in the 4th local elections after the Public Official Election Act was revised in 2005. At that time, the number of foreigner voters was 6,726, which increased now to 11,000. The election guidance booklet for foreigner voters contains information not only in Korean but also in English and Chinese to assist them to easily exercise their voting rights.

However, foreigners are not allowed to cast an absentee-ballot.





2. Investigatory Authority on election crimes

[Grounds for investigation]

The legal grounds for investigatory work of ECs lie in Article 14(2) of the Election Commission Act (Suspension of and Warning against Violations of Election Act), and Article 272-2 of the Public Official Election Act (Investigation, etc. of Election Crimes).

According to Article 256 of the Public Official Election Act (Violation of Various Restrictive Provisions), an election commission may impose fines in case of noncompliance with a request for materials necessary for investigation, and punishments against obstructing entry or submitting false materials.

[Investigation Authority]

The authority to investigate election crimes is bestowed on the commissioners and staff of Election Commissions at every level (excluding the Eup/Myeon/Dong election commission). According to the Election Commission Act and the Public Official Election Act, some public officials who are temporarily dispatched to ECs to support election administrative management may conduct investigatory work when they are appointed as such in charge of investigation and monitoring.

The citizens who are appointed as supervisory group of vote rigging cannot exercise the investigatory authority endowed by Article 272-2 of the Public Official Election Act based solely on his/her judgement. However, Article 10-2(6) of the same Act states that ‘The supervisory group of vote rigging may, under the direction of the competent ECs, collect evidential data on acts of violations of this Act, or carry out investigatory activities therefore.’ So, under the instruction of ECs, they can participate in investigatory activities.

[The substance of investigatory authority]

In order to cope with increasingly clever and covert election crimes, the authority of investigation was newly inaugurated when the Public Official Election Act was revised on November 11, 1997. Since then, the authority has been supplemented and reinforced, which has become shaped now as follows.

* The right to access the place of election crimes

The commissioners and staff of ECs have the authority to access the relevant places to inquire of or investigate the relevant persons or to collect evidential materials, with the intention of investigating election crimes.

Where it is deemed that a person is suspected of election crimes, or a petition for election crime made by

the candidate (including the candidate for competition), preliminary candidate, election campaign manager, chief of an election campaign liaison office or election campaign worker, is regarded as based on good evidence, or when the reports are made on crimes committed on the spot, the members or employees of ECs may enter the place. Thus, it is not the same as entering certain places with the approval of the relevant persons, with the intention of carrying out preventive activities.

* The right to inquire of or investigate relevant persons

It is the right to inquire of or investigate the relevant persons to ascertain election crimes. It is the main part of investigatory authority, consisted of investigation and evidence collection of suspected election crimes. Although the relevant persons have the responsibility to respond to investigation and inquiry, they cannot be punished if they choose to remain silent.

* The right to request the submission of materials

It is the right to request the persons who possess materials related with suspected crimes to submit the materials. This is one of the most useful measures to collect and scrutinize election crime evidence.

* The right to request the relevant persons to accompany to or to appear at Election Commission office

- To request him or her to accompany voluntarily the commissioners or staff members of ECs to election commission office

It is to accompany the relevant persons to election commission office with the approval of the relevant persons, as the need for it is acknowledged for the investigation of suspicious illicit provision of service or goods. However, as it is a voluntary accompanying based on the approval, a force cannot be applied even if the relevant persons reject the accompanying.

- To request him or her to appear at election commission office

It is to request the appearance at election commission office or designated place to investigate election crimes such as illicit provision of goods and service. This right was endowed as it was difficult, due to the peculiarity of election crimes, to conduct a field investigation and the persons in question often did not respond to investigation and inquiry.

* The right to collect evidential materials on the spot

It is to occupy and preserve the evidential materials such as materials and goods collected on the spot where the election crime was being committed. It is an effective measure of a field investigation for various reasons (preservation of evidence, etc.). However, as it is an infringement of the people’s rights of ownership, ECs instruct its commissioners and staff to exercise it carefully.

[Procedure of exercising investigatory authority]

* Basic Principles

The exercise of investigatory rights is bound to impose limits on basic rights of the people. Thus, the exercise of the authority must be carried out in an appropriate way. The legitimacy of purpose, appropriateness of methods, minimization of damage as well as the balance of the benefit and protection of the law should be taken into account.

***Notification procedure**

In order for the investigatory work of employees of ECs to be acknowledged as a legitimate fulfilment of duty, notification process as required by the Public Official Election Act must be followed. They shall show credentials evidencing their positions to interested persons, tell their posts and names, and explain their objectives and grounds. They also need to notify that punishment shall be imposed if the persons concerned disobey the request of investigation.



IV NEC News

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2. Entrusted Election Management
3. Mock Overseas Voting
4. Civic Education by KOCEI
5. NEC's International Activities



1. NEC activities to realize fair election

[Activities of NEC to Realize Democracy]

In the past, ECs pursued rather passive administrative management, providing an environment in which election laws are abided by. At present, ECs aim to play an active role to advance politics by engaging in an active interpretation of laws related to political issues and by revising electoral laws to better reflect reality.

[Activities to Raise Voter Turnout]



Encourage voters' participation in election

A low turnout may jeopardize the political representativeness of the elected because the political will of the whole electorate would not be reflected, distorted by small number of votes. To take an example, if the turnout rate was 20%, that means candidates need the support of only 10% of entire electorate to be elected. Then, there remain questions on the intent of silent majority who did not vote. In addition, candidates may tend to rely on their money and power to win favour from the small number of voters. Likewise, a low turnout might bring unfair advantages to incumbent politicians over political novices because of the disparity of political power and influences.

To reflect voters' intent correctly without any distortion of the political will of the people in elections, the NEC is engaged in various activities to encourage the people to participate in their elections. The followings present some of PR activities carried out during the period of the 5th Nationwide Local Elections.

* On-line Public Relation

The NEC targeted the young generation by opening an Internet website, and appointing popular singers as celebrity ambassadors. The website contains information on the local elections, various events and UCC video clips to draw the attention of the young generation to politics.

* Sponsorship of TV Programme

The NEC sent positive messages to voters by sponsoring popular television dramas and entertainment programmes and inserting additional lines about election into the scripts of television drama. It was intended to make the voters realise the significance of the election in their daily lives and lead them to cast their vote voluntarily.

The NEC also sponsored an infotainment show to introduce the comparison of election systems in Korea and other foreign countries.

* Campaign Event in soccer and baseball stadiums

The officers of the NEC organised the promotion campaign including painting, picketing in public places such as soccer and baseball stadiums and encouraged voters' participation in the local elections.



Promotion of election at public places

[Prevent electoral law violations by beefing up information provision]

* Election Academy

The NEC opened the Election Academy targeting pre-candidates and relevant people of political parties, ahead of the 5th Nationwide Local Elections of June 2, 2010. The Academy was run for three months from December 2009 to February 2010, attended by 17,460 people in its 50 sessions. The Election Academy offered customized learning course to participants by inviting experts on the laws of politics and election campaign mechanics.

According to the survey conducted on participating pre-candidates about the satisfaction with the course, 89% of those answered said they were satisfied with the learning course, and 93% of them were willing to attend the course again, attesting the usefulness of the course.

* Provide information on electoral laws through various channels

In order to ensure that election crimes due to non-knowledge of electoral law are prevented, ECs put more importance on pre-emptive actions like visiting and interviewing candidates to diffuse relevant information and to prohibit the violation of law, rather than post-election activities.

For this purpose, ECs secured communication channels with political parties and candidates to consistently provide election-related laws. ECs also publicized the reward for reporting potential election crimes and identity protection of people who reported the crimes. Also, a fine-imposition system and its real examples were widely promoted through the media to discourage voters' expectation of receiving any goods or money in return for their votes. The NEC also took advantages of Social Networking Service(SNS), which is known for viral spread of information, as a vehicle to provide information on major electoral laws to the wider public. About 130,000 copies of 'The examples of the violation of the politics-related laws' were distributed to political parties, pre-candidates, and local governments to explain the electoral laws in an easy-to-understand way with real examples. Emails and MMS were also used to provide 160,000 candidates and treasuries with the laws governing political funds, campaign expense and its violation cases.

*Operate the statutory information centre

Ahead of the 2010 local elections, a large scale of amendments was made to the Public Official Election Act. To effectively respond to these changes, the NEC instructed standardized ways of operating the laws on the issues of importance. And it also encouraged its staff members to participate actively in the workshop and group activities dealing with electoral laws, so that everyone is equipped with enough knowledge about the application of laws to answer the inquiries on demand.

The NEC also established the Statutory Information Service early on and expanded its staff members from 9 to 26 in charge of providing legal information service, in order to facilitate the provision of politics-related legal information service to pre-candidates and relevant people. First of all, it restructured the Comprehensive Statutory Information Service and posted relevant information on its website. The number of staff members of Si/Do ECs dealing with legal information also increased to 121, so that they can effectively respond to inquiries on demand. As a result, the Central Statutory Information Centre dealt with 64,550 cases in 2010, increased by 98.5% from the 4th local elections which dealt with 32,036 cases in 2006.

For more thorough response, a Call-Back system was set up and the statutory information guide suitable to certain times and topics were drawn up and sent by e-mail.

As such, the NEC provided exhaustive legal information in advance as well as carrying out extensive surveillance work to conduct the local elections in the most transparent and fair way. It designated 1) the receipt of illegal monetary contribution; 2) provision of illicit money and goods; 3) interference of public officials in election; 4) slander and smear propaganda, and; 5) the monetary donation/acceptance for the purpose of winning public nomination, as the five major election crimes and strenuously oversaw them.

[Create an environment conducive to the policy-oriented contestation]

In order to promote a policy-oriented, positive election campaign, and discourage a negative campaign focused on slandering and malicious propaganda, the NEC carried out various activities:



Pledges to run policy-oriented campaign

* It has laid down the foundation to stimulate a manifesto-based policy election.

First, ECs developed and distributed citizen manifesto agendas at Si/Do level and advocated '2010 Citizen Manifesto Promotion Council'. After going through rigorous discussion and survey, ten election pledges put forward by citizens of 16 Si/Dos were selected. On January 26, '2010 Citizen Manifesto presentation ceremony' was held with the presence of Si/Do representatives at Si/Do level. On January 28, the selected manifesto agendas were delivered to the heads of political parties.



Citizen Manifesto Presentation Ceremony

The major election pledges put forward by citizens of 16 Si/Dos are as follows:

- Creation of jobs for the youth
- Invigoration of economy by attracting business investment
- Establishment of welfare system for the marginalized groups of the society
- Improvement of education system
- Expansion of education support for the children of low-income families
- Ease the financial burden of bringing up a child
- Strengthening of local autonomy, etc.

‘The Discussion on Manifesto’ was held on March 4 to discuss the way forward on citizen’s manifesto and implementation ideas.



The discussion on Manifesto

*Second, the evaluation yardstick for manifesto election pledges was invented and widely distributed.

After reviewing the examples of evaluation tools at home and abroad, and analyzing leading evaluation indicators, a new kind of barometers to evaluate election pledges in local elections was invented. This newly invented barometer was widely distributed by issuing guidance book, posting it on the website, and including them on 100,000 volumes of the election management booklets.

‘Guidebook to Manifesto’, a booklet containing the introduction of manifesto and evaluation methods of election pledges, was placed at public service centres, lounges of bus terminals, civic organizations, political parties, and campaign offices.

Si/Do ECs and Gu/Si/Gun ECs held ‘Manifesto Policy Election Agreement Ceremony’, with the presence of candidates, reporters of major media outlets, civic organization members, to widely declare the determination of candidates to run policy-oriented campaign.



Pledges to run policy-oriented campaign

*Third, much more information about candidates and their policies were given to voters.

[Political Parties Information System-<http://party.nec.go.kr>] was operated to provide voters with information about candidates’ policies. On this website, ‘Ten basic policies in local elections’ as well as ‘Five core pledges by region’ of political parties standing for local elections were posted. During the election period, election pledges of candidates running for the head of local government and the Superintendent of Education Committee were also posted. The NEC plans to leave the campaign pledges of the elected posted on its website until after the election to verify if the elected implement the pledges.

‘Election Pledges Bank’ event was open to promote manifesto policy election and to encourage voters to propose policies. 1,400 voters took part in the event during the period March 22 to May 20, and put forward the pledges they would like to see materialized.

[Hold the 6th Discussion Contest of University Students]

The National Election Broadcasting Debate Commission opened the 6th University Student Discussion Contest on August 27 at the Media, Performing Arts Center of Chung-Ang University, with the theme of ‘Bring changes the electoral district of National Assembly elections’.



The discussion contest was the largest in scale to date with the participation of 256 students of 128 teams from 46 universities nationwide. In particular, as students from different universities were allowed to form a team, about 21 teams were made up in such a way.

Two participants made up of a team and the teams decided whether to argue for or against the given subject. There were preliminary sessions to determine the teams to move to the next round. In that round, 32 teams were selected, and they again contested in a tournament round to go to the final round.

The final round was emceed by MBC's anchor Hyeonjin Bae, who is the final winner of the 3rd discussion contest. The final round of discussion was held in a free style, and the prize worth about KRW 11.4 million in total was given to the winners.

The discussion contest has been held since 2005 to improve the discussion capability of university students, as a way to nurture the students as mature democratic citizens.



2. Entrusted Election Management

[Historical background]

With widespread democratic movement in the late 1980s, direct election system was introduced to the elections of the educational circle and public organizations. Against this backdrop, the NEC put great deal of efforts for the legislation, to be entrusted with the elections of public organizations. On November 7, 1987, the National Election Commission Act was revised, opening a new chapter in management of entrusted elections.

[Relevant legislation]

ECs have been entrusted with the elections of Agricultural, Fisheries and Livestock Cooperatives and managed them since July 2005. Recently, politicians and public organizations have highly regarded the expertise and fairness of the NEC in managing these elections, and there have been opinions that other various kinds of elections should be entrusted to ECs. Under this atmosphere, amendments to the relevant laws were made to entrust the ECs with elections of various public organizations and civil organizations. As a result, the need to draw up comprehensive rules was raised, to be commonly applied to the elections for other public organizations as well as for heads of the Agricultural, Fisheries, Livestock, and Forest Cooperatives. The comprehensive rules governing elections were promulgated and enforced as of September 16, 2010. In this context, we'll look into the management of entrusted elections in more detail here.

Most of all, the range of elections included in the entrusted elections has expanded significantly.

- The elections for public offices have been run in a relatively fair way, with such systems as '50 times fine for negligence (imposing a fine to the tune of 50 times the amount offered)' and 'Reward for reporting irregularities' in place. On the other hand, the legal grounds for punishments were insufficient in the elections of public organizations including those of Agricultural, Fisheries and Livestock Cooperatives, resulting in widespread irregularities including illicit monetary donation, provision of goods and service. In consideration of these irregularities, the NEC had prepared legislation to manage elections of public organizations since 2005, on parallel with providing continued support to their election management. Since 2006, it has been entrusted with and managed elections for Presidents of National Universities and civil organizations as well as Cooperatives.

- Recently, the laws of Cooperatives were promulgated and enforced, which stipulates that the Korean Federation of Small and Medium Business, National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, and the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives must or voluntarily entrust the elections for their

chairpersons to ECs. The Act on the Maintenance and Improvement of Urban Areas and Dwelling Conditions for Residents also stipulates that the Preparatory Committee for Housing Renovation Project Association and the Association of Housing Renovation Project must or voluntarily entrust the elections for their executive members to ECs.

In addition, an amendment was made to the Enforcement Decree of the Housing Act on July 6, 2010. This made it possible to ask for support from ECs in the elections for the executive members of around 20,000 apartment houses. It has significantly expanded the scope of ECs' work in supporting private-sector election.

< Facts about Entrusted Elections >

Type of Election		Number of elections	Remarks
Public Organizations	Total	1,310	
	Chairperson of the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation	1	Promulgation: 2009. 6. 9 Enforcement: 2009. 12.10
	Chairperson of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives	1	Promulgation: 2010. 4. 12 Enforcement: 2010. 10.13
	Chairperson of the Korean Federation of Small and Medium Business	1	Promulgation: 2006. 4. 28 Enforcement: 2006. 7. 29
	Heads of Agricultural Cooperatives	978	Promulgation: 2004. 12. 31 Enforcement: 2005. 7. 1
	Heads of Livestock Cooperatives	116	Promulgation: 2004. 12. 31 Enforcement: 2005. 7. 1
	Heads of Fisheries Cooperatives	71	Promulgation: 2004. 12. 31 Enforcement: 2005. 7. 1
	Heads of Forestry Cooperatives	142	Promulgation: 2004. 12. 31 Enforcement: 2005. 5. 1
President of National Universities	40	Promulgation: 2005. 5. 31 Enforcement: 2005. 9. 1	
Executive members of Housing Renovation Project Association		Promulgation · Enforcement 2010. 4. 15	
Heads, Auditors of Apartment Houses Residents, Representatives of Dong ['Dong' is a suffix attached to the name of an apartment building]	Apartment complex : 22,586 500 or more households complex: 4,146	Promulgation · Enforcement 2010. 7. 6	

Entrusted Elections of Public organizations

*According to the Regulations Governing Entrusted Elections of Public Organizations, the process and the range of work of ECs concerning the entrusted elections mentioned above are as follows:

- When concerned organizations entrust the elections of the chairpersons to ECs, they should apply to relevant ECs,
 - Chairperson of Federations, and the heads of Cooperatives: 180 days prior to the expiration of the term of office (for by-elections, in no later than 5 days after an incident calling for election occurred);
 - Commissioners of the Preparatory Committee for Housing Renovation Project, and for executive members of the Association of Housing Renovation Project-including the Associations of Improvement of Dwelling Conditions, of Housing Redevelopment, and Housing Rebuilding: 60 days prior to the expiration of the term of office (For the first election of executive members, and by-elections, in no later than 30 days after the agreement on the election was reached);

- The range of work that ECs are entrusted and manage is not limited to the management of voting and counting of votes but also includes overall management of elections such as public awareness activities, promotion of elections, and crackdown on irregular activities. However, ECs should not be involved in preparing the list of voters and its confirmation.

Others

*The range of support that ECs can provide and the procedures of application for support in the elections of heads, auditors of the Committee of Representatives of Apartment Houses, and the representative of Dong are as follows;

- The application form for the support of elections should be submitted to relevant ECs;
 - Representatives of Dong: 90 days prior to the expiration of the term of office (for the first representative election, there is no designated period for application);
 - Executive members of the Committee of Representatives: in no later than 10 days prior to public notification of elections
- The range the support ECs are allowed to give is administrative work regarding voting and counting of ballots (excluding the work related with deciding the elected), surveillance and investigation of irregularities(upon the request), the instruction and promotion of elections (upon the request).
 - ※ Staff members of ECs can be appointed as the commissioner to the autonomous election commission of apartment complex with more than 500 households.

[Track record of entrusted elections]

From 2005 to 2010, ECs have been entrusted with 2,139 elections, contributing to making elections in the civic sphere more transparent and fairer. The breakdown of the number of entrusted elections since the beginning is shown in the table below. It shows that even in 2010, when the eight local elections were held nationwide, ECs managed 509 entrusted elections.

	The number of entrusted elections						
	Total	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	2,139	256	512	131	163	568	509
President of National Universities	55	-	12	15	10	9	8
Heads of Cooperatives	2,084	256	500	116	153	559	460

The NEC recognizes that establishing a fair election atmosphere requires fundamental transformation of public awareness about elections and the elections in the private sector first should become fairer. ECs will continue to do its best to hold the elections in the civic sphere in the most fair and transparent way, believing that will spill over to all the elections for public offices.

Recently, the deliberation on legislation is underway in the National Assembly with regard to entrusting the elections for the chairperson of the Korean Federation of Community Credit Cooperatives to ECs. As such, social consensus has been building to entrust elections in the private sector to ECs, indicating

positive evaluation of the work that ECs have done on the field of entrusted elections.

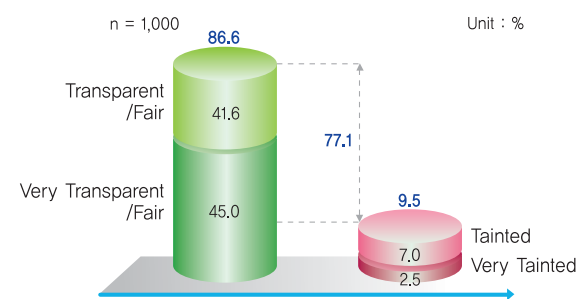
In the following, you can find the results of the survey conducted in 2010 on the topics related with entrusted elections.

[The results of survey on entrusted elections]

*Elections for the heads of Cooperatives.

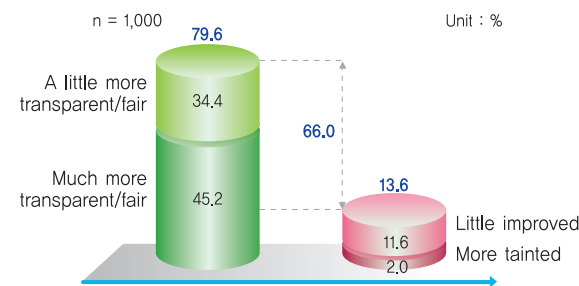
- Atmosphere

Most(86.6%) of those answered the survey said that the elections were fair



- Comparison of fairness: before and after entrusted elections

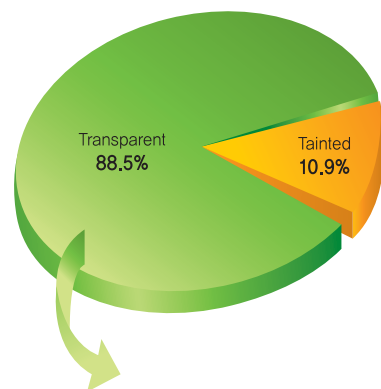
Most (79.6%) of those answered said that the elections entrusted to ECs became fairer than before.



* The survey on the elections for President of National University

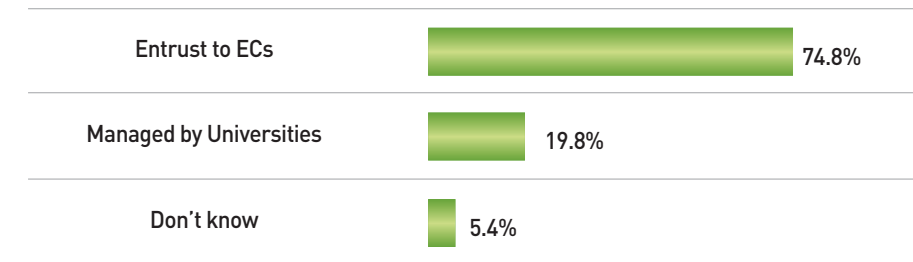
- Atmosphere

Most (88.5%) of those answered said the election was fair and transparent.



- Opinions on entrusting the elections for President of National University to ECs

Three out of four voters (74.8%) responded that it is appropriate that elections for President of National University are entrusted to ECs.



The varying levels of EC's engagement by election type are as shown in the table below.

	Type of elections
Mandatorily entrusted elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elections for heads of regional Agricultural /Livestock /Fisheries /Forestry Cooperatives - Recommendation of President of National Universities - Chairperson of National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives - Chairperson of National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives
Voluntarily entrusted elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Korean Federation of Small and Medium Business - Executive members of the Association of Preparatory Committee for Housing Renovation Project, and the Association of Housing Renovation Project
Provision of support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Give support to the elections for the heads and auditors of the Committee of representatives of Apartment houses residents, and the representatives of Dong ※ Staff members of ECs can be appointed as the commissioner to the autonomous election commission of apartment complex with more than 500 households



3. Mock Overseas Voting

In 2007, the Korean Constitutional Court ruled that the provision of the Public Official Election Act which did not allow Koreans living overseas to cast a vote was unconstitutional, as it limits voting rights and the right of equality, thereby unconfirmable to the principle of universal suffrage. With this ruling, the amendment was made to the relevant laws to allow overseas Koreans to cast a vote. As a result, Koreans living abroad will be able to cast their ballot for the first time in the National Assembly election in the first half of 2012.

With this change, the NEC has made consistent efforts to manage the first overseas voting without a hitch, from the time the amendment to the Public Official Election Act was made, granting overseas Koreans the right to vote. The efforts that the NEC have carried out for this purpose will be explained below.

[Field study on the ground and overseas explanatory session]

NEC officials visited 11 embassies, consulates and diplomatic missions in Asia and Europe from August 22 to September 5, 2010 to look into the conditions for overseas voting. It also held explanatory sessions abroad about overseas voting. These measures were taken to understand the level of preparation for overseas voting and overall situation on the ground.

[Consultation Committee on Overseas Voting]

On September 8, 2010, officials from eight organizations involved in overseas voting, including the NEC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Administration and Security, Ministry of National Defense gathered together to have a consultation. On this consultation, they checked what has been prepared and underway ahead of mock overseas voting, scheduled to be held on November 24. The meeting also offered a chance that relevant bodies understand the tasks of each other and facilitate their cooperation.

[Provision of Statutory information about overseas voting]

The NEC printed about 1,500 volumes of [Overseas Voting Statutory Information] and distributed them to overseas embassies, consulates and diplomatic missions to prevent any irregularities in the overseas voting slated for 2012. Also, it distributed [Election Campaign guideline for overseas voting] to give information about election campaign activities permitted under the Public Official Election Act.

[Mock overseas voting]

The NEC held mock overseas voting to detect any snags and resolve them ahead of the first overseas voting of 2012. The mock overseas voting was held, assuming a hypothetical National Assembly election upon the expiration of the term of office, with 26 overseas embassies, consulates and diplomatic missions and 16 Gu/Si/Gun participating.

In total, 10,991 overseas Koreans were confirmed as the electorate for the mock overseas voting. Of them, 7,306 overseas citizens registered as overseas absentees, who have domestic resident registration reported and want to vote overseas. The rest 3,685 overseas citizens applied for registration as overseas voters, whose resident registration have not been reported.

* Schedule for the mock overseas voting is as follows.

- Receive application for mock overseas voting from electors (August~September);
- Draw up List of Voters at embassies, consulates and diplomatic missions (October 1~12);
- Confirmation of Voters List (October 25);
- Gu/Si/Gun ECs sent ballot papers, leaflet containing information about overseas voting, and stamped addressed envelopes to overseas voters by international EMS. (~October 30)
- Post information about political parties and candidates standing in the mock overseas voting on the websites of NEC and embassies, consulates, and diplomatic missions. (~November 11)
- Hold the mock overseas voting at 26 embassies, consulates, and diplomatic missions. (November 14 and 15)
- Sixteen Gu/Si/Gun Election Commissions count the ballots. (November 24)

If there is the necessity to enact legislation to resolve any problems found, the NEC will propose an advisory opinion and will consult with relevant organizations such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Ministry of Justice. As such, the NEC is doing everything it can to prepare fair and efficient ways to manage the first overseas voting.

[The result of mock overseas voting]

The votes cast at the mock overseas voting were counted on November 24. In the election of proportional representatives of the National Assembly, 3,969 votes (94.4%) were valid, while 235(5.6%) were invalid. In the election of district representatives of the National Assembly, where only overseas absentees were allowed to vote from abroad, 2,318 votes(90.8%) were valid, while 234 (9.2)% were invalid. The reasons for invalid votes were varied; voters who did not carry their passports; voters who put the wrong names of candidates and political parties.

Out of 10,991 eligible electors, 4,203 cast their votes, recording the average turnout of 38.2%.

4. Civic Education by KOCEI

The NEC has implemented public awareness activities to promote the exercise of voters' sovereign rights, guided by the Election Commission Act. For this purpose, the NEC has consistently provided civic education and operated the Korean Civic Education Institute for Democracy(KOCEI) for the training of public officials in election and the administrative work of political parties.

Although Korea has achieved rapid economic development with the introduction of Western style democracy, there have been various social problems arising from lacking development of local community and others. Thus, there has been the necessity to provide citizens with systematic and extensive civic education to pursue sound development of democratic society and to fundamentally cure social problems. The KOCEI is taking on these roles. You can find more detailed civic education programs that the KOCEI carried out in 2010 below.

[New-Leaders' Camp for University Students]

The KOCEI hosted 'New-leaders Camp' for university students at Mt. Songnisan Youth Town from February 4 to 5, 2010. The camp was held to develop a culture of discussion and political participation of university students. The participants were 100 university students. The students already have the experience of taking part in 'Political Camp for Future Leaders' in the past, which was opened for the presidents of high school student councils. Thus, the effectiveness of the program and active involvement of participants were ensured thanks to the continuity of the programs and familiarity of students with the issues.

Various programmes were provided to enhance participants' civic awareness: 1) special lectures on the importance of youths' participation in politics; 2) comparison of political cultures after watching movies covering election and; 3) discussions on the ways to increase voter turnout.

[Programme for the Elected as Local Council Members]

Although the local elections are over, it is more important for the elected to do their roles properly to institutionalize the grassroots democracy in the community. In this regard, the KOCEI ran education programmes for the newly elected local council members nationwide. The course was two-day programmes from June 14 to 30, 2010. There were around 3,200 participants from political parties including the Grand National Party, the Democratic Party, the Liberal Forward Party and the Democratic Labor Party, which produced more than 50 Si/Co council members or more than 100 Gu/Si/Gun council members in the local elections.

The programme consists of special lectures on politics, presentations on local council members' political activities and introduction of local council members' tasks and responsibilities. The program also included the introduction of parliamentary activities, such as what actions they're not allowed to take, writing of parliamentary activity reports, and manifestos, so that the participants can be equipped with the mindset and attitudes required as public officials. Besides, the programme also offered special lectures on practical tasks such as deliberation of budget and settlement, consideration of ordinances, inspection of administrative works, thereby helping the elected successfully and swiftly adjust to their jobs.

[Programme for University Students with Credit Provision]

In Korea, the youth gain their suffrages at the age of 19 and take part in political and social activities usually in their university days. Thus, the education programme to develop mature civic awareness is highly required during this time. The KOCEI offers lectures and field trips with academic credits to give university students chances to participate in politics and enhance their civic awareness.

The programme was carried out for 15 weeks on every Friday from March to June in accordance with the curriculum of the participating university which concluded an MOU with the KOCEI for civic education. In this semester, around 90 university students from Kookmin University, Dongguk University and Kyunghee University completed the programme.

The KOCEI offered lectures on issues ranging from political parties and their activities, election system, political paradigm shift and to political culture. In addition, the attendees met politicians and leaders of civic organisations through the programme. Several field trips and visits to the NEC, political parties, the National Assembly, the Blue House, the Constitutional Court and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade were also included.

[Programme for Teachers]

'A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops', a quote from Henry Adams. The civic education starting from elementary and middle school days is indeed significant since the childhood is a decisive moment of one's life to be raised as a democratic citizen. In this regard, the KOCEI has provided civic education programmes tailored to teachers who have the vital responsibility to guide and teach future citizens.

The Saturdays' Open Lectures is a programme which was designed to spread teaching methods encouraging students' participation and discussion and to build the social consensus on the necessity of civic education for students. In this programme, around 360 elementary and middle school teachers were educated by participating in either the program in the first or second half of year. Six sessions per half of year run on every fourth Saturday in each month. The Saturdays' Open Lectures were more practical than theoretical, arranged to be carried out together with teachers' on-the-job training to maximise effectiveness.

The Lecturing Tour for Teachers is designed to provide civic education programs to teachers nationwide. The number of participants of the programme was around 400, each 80 from Seoul, Busan, Deagu, Gwangju and Deajeon. Additionally, the programme was planned to facilitate active participation of

teachers in local cities by fixing the programme period from 2 to 13 of August, which is the summer vacation period of Korean elementary and middle schools. The Lecturing Tour for Teachers includes not only lectures directly linked to elections but also lectures on participatory teaching methods and understanding of multi cultural families to accomplish effective civic education and the socio-culture accepting diversity in schools.

< 2010 Korea-Sweden International Symposium on Democratic Civic Education >



2010 Korea-Sweden International Symposium was held at the KOCEI from March 18 to 19, 2010 on the subject of 「Civic Education and Election for Sustainable Democracy」.

The KOCEI has hosted the international symposium every year since 2005 in the field of civic education. Scholars and professionals of the both nations from the field of democratic civic education were invited to the symposium and had opportunities to make presentations and debate actively under the themes as follows

- Democratic Civic Education and ‘Complete Democracy’ in Sweden
- Comparison of Democratic Civic Education Systems in Sweden and Korea
- Democratic Civic Education and Election to Stimulate political Participation
- Establishment of Communication System and Shared Information for Efficient Democratic Civic Education

5. NEC’s International Activities

The NEC has carried out various exchanges with foreign election commissions throughout 2010 to share experience and solidify the cooperation.

[Diamond Jubilee celebrations of India Electoral Commission]

Standing Commissioner, Dr. Kyung Keun KANG visited India to attend Indian Election Commission(ECI)’s Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at Vigyan Bhawan Centre in New Delhi on January 25, 2010. At the ceremony, President Patil of India delivered a congratulatory speech and introduced commemorative stamps for the 60th anniversary of the Election Commission of India.



On January 27, an international symposium on “Sharing Best Electoral Practices” was held as part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. More than fifty delegates from various election management bodies in 30 countries including Korea, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Thailand, the UK and the US attended the Symposium and shared their views and experiences on electoral practices. Dr. KANG gave a presentation on “Educating the Youth for Political Participation and Sustainable Democracy” and had a discussion on the issues related to civic education in Korea.

[Observation of the 2010 Sri Lankan Presidential Election]

The delegation of the NEC took part in the observation program of Sri Lankan presidential election,



hosted by the AAEA, from January 19 to 29, 2010. The presidential election, which took place on January 26, was held in a calm environment, with the Sri Lankan people displaying a great zeal for the voting.

[Observation of the Philippine Election and provision of election device]

The NEC dispatched a delegation to the Philippines to observe the Electronic Election in May 2010. The Philippines has implemented the automated election nationwide to produce fast election results and prevent illegalities in the procedure of election management. The NEC donated electronic devices, including vim projectors and laptop computers, to support the electronic election. The donation ceremony was held at the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) building in the Philippines on May 7, 2010.



Prior to Election Day, the delegation visited the Philippine Consulate in Hong Kong to observe Philippine overseas voting. On May 10, 2010, Election Day, the NEC delegates observed the whole election process

consisting of voting, counting and canvassing. Although there were some doubts and worries about the feasibility of the electronic election system, the election proceeded fairly and accurately.

The delegation's visit was a chance not only to assist Philippine election management but also to exchange election management skills of overseas voting and electronic voting. The NEC does hope to build a close relationship with the COMELEC based on the constant exchange of election experiences.

[MOU with Australia Electoral Commission]

The NEC has signed an MOU with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) on June 8, 2010, following MOUs with Peru, Nepal and Bangladesh. Dr. Ki-Sun Lee, Secretary General of the NEC, and Mr. Ed Killesteyn, Commissioner of the AEC, signed the MOU at the AEC office in Canberra, Australia. According to the MOU, the two commissions will carry forward various plans: election observation programme, seminars, exchange of ideas and discussion about various fields such as election system, election culture and civic education programmes.

[AAEA Executive Board Meeting]



The NEC hosted the Executive Board Meeting of the Asian Association of Election Authorities(AAEA) for four days from October 26, 2010 at Lotte Hotel in Seoul.

The AAEA was established in February 1998, led by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems(IFES), to realize fair and transparent elections in the Asian region and facilitate exchanges of information among election management bodies. As of now, the AAEA membership stands at 17 Asian countries.

The participants were sixteen delegates from six electoral authorities, including Chairman Dr.Liu I-Chou of Taiwan Election Commission and Commissioner Mr. Dayananda Dissanayake of Sri Lankan Election Commission. On October 27, election officers participating in the Executive Meeting also went to Gwangju to observe the by-election for the head of local government of Seo-gu, Gwangju, before having the Executive Meeting on the following day. The delegates had productive discussion on the various aspects of activities of the AAEA and shared electoral management experience with each other.

The NEC said that the meeting was an opportunity to exchange various opinions about the desirable role of election commissions to firmly establish a fair election culture and ways to advance the election, political parties and political funds systems. It declares that it will continue to expand exchanges with other election authorities to promote democratic politics and spread fair and professional election management capacity.

[Provide support in Drafting Political Parties Law of Nepal]

In 2009, the Election Commissions of Korea and Nepal signed an MOU to promote enduring cooperation and partnership. As part of this effort to strengthen the partnership, a study tour for Nepal election officials was carried out in July 2010. It was a chance to push forward with the first step of implementing the MOU, which was materialized by drafting of Nepali political parties law.

Also, six Nepali officials involved in drafting the law were invited and provided with a seminar from November 23 to 29, as a way to enhance mutual understanding.



[Foreign EMB Officers' Visit to the NEC]

We warmly welcome foreign EMB officers' visits as it is the foundation of productive exchange and cooperation by discussing each other's election systems. Two main visits were made during the first half of 2010: the Chairperson of Zambian Electoral Commission and the delegation from Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in Hong Kong.

*** Goodwill Visit from Zambian Electoral Commission**



Chairperson of Zambian Electoral Commission (ZEC), Madame Florence Mumba, made a call on the NEC on May 13, 2010. Ms. Mumba had a talk with Dr. Kyung-Keun KANG, Standing Commissioner of the NEC, and had a discussion session with Mr. Sang-Boo MOON, the Chief of Planning and Coordination Office, on the Korean electoral system. Ms. Mumba presented a lot of interest in the provision of the Korean election law, which stipulates certain proportion of women candidate to be nominated by political parties.

In addition, Ms. Mumba had chances to operate the Touch-Screen Voting system, which was developed in 2006 by the NEC, and visit the Election Situation Room for the 5th Nationwide Local Elections. In the situation room, she did her trial voting at a mock polling station.

Although the time was limited, there was no doubt that the visit will be the cornerstone of constant cooperation between two election authorities. The NEC would like to contribute to the development of election management in Zambia through the increase of mutual exchange.

*** Visit from Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in Hong Kong**

On June 28, 2010, The NEC received a visit from Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in Hong Kong (LOCG in HK). The delegation from LOCG in HK including Mr. Gang LI, the Vice-Minister, and his five attendants visited the NEC to look into the Korean electoral system.

The delegation met Dr. Ki-Sun LEE, Secretary General of the NEC and had a discussion session with Mr. Sang-Boo MOON, the Chief of Planning and Coordination Office. In particular, the delegation showed great interests in Korea's direct election system and political activities of candidates and parties.

It is apparent that the visit will play the role of developing further cooperative relationship between HK and the NEC.

*** Visit from Tanzania senior public officials**

The delegation of senior Tanzanian government officials visited the NEC on October 12, 2010. The NEC introduced its history and overview of its missions, as well as Korea's election laws. The delegation showed a high interest in the Korean electoral system in a Q&A session, raising various

questions with regard to election expenses, the demarcation of electoral districts, and the requirements for candidates to run for elections, among others. They expressed satisfaction with their visit, for informative and substantive program.



[Study Visit from Foreign Election Commission Officials]

The Election Observation Programme for foreign EMB officers has been run on a regular basis. The NEC designed the programme as a chance to support participants' understanding of the Korean electoral system through various briefing sessions and field trips provided by the KOCEI. The KOCEI has offered this kind of study tours to 144 election officers from thirty countries since 2006, in cooperation with the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). These programs have been widely regarded as a way to boost cooperation with participating countries and contribute to promoting Korea's national brand.

*** Election Observation Programme for Mongolia and Kazakhstan**

The Election Observation Programme was held from May 31 to June 4, 2010 and twelve delegates from the General Election Commission of Mongolia and the Central Election Commission of Kazakhstan participated.

The course consists of briefing sessions on the preparation measures to secure fairness in the 5th Nationwide Local Elections, political party and political funding systems, electronic voting system, voting and counting management, etc. There were also field trips to the NEC and voting and counting stations to give the participants a chance to experience at first-hand Korea's political system. Besides, there were presentation sessions in which each country introduced their election systems and held discussion on them.

The KOCEI officer said that the course was highly effective in that discussion session on the election systems was given high priority and participants discussed the ways to apply the Korean election management system to their respective countries, increasing the effectiveness of the course.

The KOCEI expects that this course offered a rare opportunity to understand unique characters of the election management systems of Mongol and Kazakhstan, and to more widely demonstrate Korea's advanced electoral systems and democratic political capacity.

The participants presented their strong impression on their observation of the 5th nationwide local elections which took place on the most massive scale in the election history of Korea.



* Foreign election officers participate in the observation of the by-elections on July 28



The KOCEI invited fourteen election officers from eight countries including the Philippines, Kazakhstan, Tanzania, and Colombia, from July 13 to 31, to offer them a study tour on the Korean electoral systems, political parties, and political funds.

Invited experts and participants had active discussions and each participant introduced their electoral systems to have an opportunity to exchange their experiences and information. Participants also had a tour of voting and counting stations in the by-elections in the first half of 2010.

***Study tour program for graduate students of the University of the Philippines**

The KOCEI held a study tour program for students of the University of the Philippines (September 27-30). The program is intended to disseminate information of the Korean election and political party systems and to lay the ground for long-lasting relationships. With these purposes, the KOCEI invited four election experts for the program. They introduced the Korean systems of political parties and political funds, efforts to establish fair election and the political progress that Korea has made so far. There were also Q&A sessions to promote the understanding of the difference of political systems between Korea and the Philippines. The KOCEI believes that the effectiveness of the program was enhanced as experts and students actively engaged in discussions. By doing so, students were given a chance to share their opinions and to gain useful information about the election systems of the two countries.

***Foreign election officers participate in the observation of the by-elections on October 27**

The election observation program for the by-elections on October 27 was announced at the end of the second edition of newsletter. The programme was designed to introduce the general Korean electoral system, and show the election campaign, voting and counting of votes during the by-elections period. Participants were fifteen foreign election officers from five countries including Bangladesh, Colombia, among others.



[NEC Delegation's Visit to Australia]

The NEC delegation visited Australia from August 18 to 25, 2010 to take part in election observation program. The delegation observed the Australian Federal Election that took place on August 21. They watched the procedures of voting and vote counting at polling places. They also visited the National Tally Room where the election results were tallied. The delegation gained further information about Australian electoral systems through electoral educational sessions and workshops.



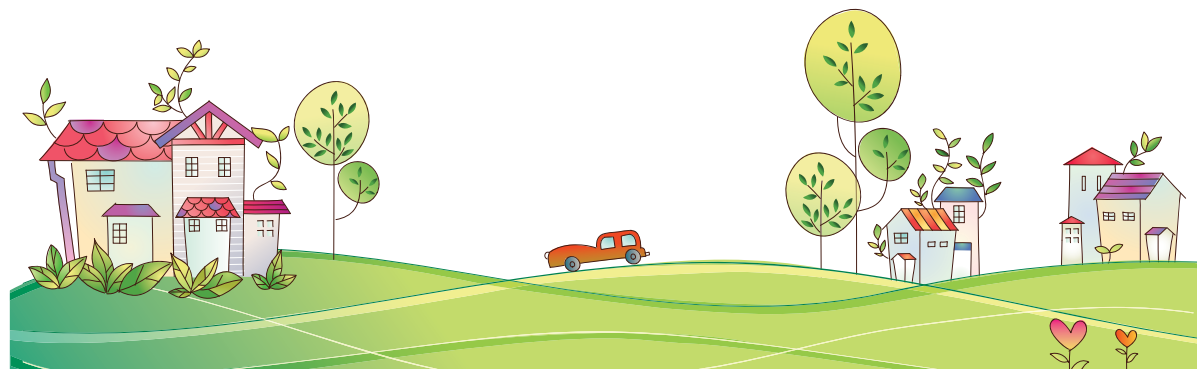
[2010 Stockholm Future Policy Forum]

The KOCEI held the 2010 Korea-Sweden Civic Education Forum to share the experience and ideas for future direction of civic education. Twenty-one civic education experts from Korea and Sweden participated in the forum, held at the KOCEI on August 12. Under the theme of civic education and election as a vehicle to realize sustainable democracy, participants had a heated discussion on the applicable cases.

[NEC Delegation's Visit to Venezuela]



The delegation of the NEC visited Venezuela to participate in election observation program from September 22 to 30, 2010. The NEC delegation observed the 2010 parliamentary election of Venezuela that took place on September 26, 2010. They observed the polling places and visited the centre for maintenance & repair of electronic voting machines. The delegation took part in the workshop held with a theme on electronic voting.



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- Website: <http://www.nec.go.kr/engvote/>
- Tel: 82-2-503-0883
- We always welcome your comments and questions at necnewsletter@ymail.com