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INSTRUCTION

on the vote counting, tabulation, centralization and announcement of the result procedure for voting-by-mail

Chapter I. General Provisions

- 1. This instruction sets out the procedure for counting, tabulation, centralizing and displaying the results of voting-by-mail , as well as the procedure for systematizing and handing over documents (materials) and electoral equipment after tabulation mail-in ballots.
- 2. This instruction shall apply to electoral bodies charged with organizing and implementing voting-by-mail: the Central Electoral Commission, the District Electoral Council (DEC) for out-of-country voting and the voting-by-mail precinct electoral bureaus.
- 3. For the sake of text clarity and coherence and to avoid overloading the text with masculine/feminine doublets, the nouns denoting functions as used in this instruction shall have the generic masculine form and an inclusive/nonsexist character.

Chapter II. Counting and tabulation of the envelopes and ballots by a Precinct Electoral Bureau of the polling station for voting-by-mail

- 4. The Precinct Electoral Bureau (PEB) of the polling station shall count and tabulate the ballots in accordance with Law No 109/2024 on partial implementation of voting-by-mail (hereinafter Law No 109/2024), Regulation on the peculiarities of organizing and implementing voting-by-mail , approved by the Central Election Commission's Decision No 2680/2024 and this Instruction.
- 5. The PEB for voting-by-mail shall start counting envelopes and ballots after all polling stations in the host country have closed.
 - 6. Ballot counting shall be conducted by the PEB members.
- 7. Before the beginning of the envelopes and ballots counting members of the electoral bureau shall arrange a space for counting provided with a sufficient number of desks so that the counting process is visible to all PEB members and all persons authorized to attend the electoral operations who are present during the procedure.
- 8. The process of envelope and ballot counting and tabulation by the PEB shall be recorded on video, and the video surveillance camera will be installed and connected before the counting begins. The process of installing and connecting the surveillance camera,

configuring the Video Recording System and recording shall comply with the Regulation on the Video Recording System operation in polling stations.

- 9. Since the moment the Chairperson of the PEB orders the start of ballot counting the Bureau members shall remain at the session and participate in the electoral operations of counting ballots and drafting of the PEB protocol and final report. A PEB member may leave the premises of the polling station in case of physical incapacity or any other extraordinary circumstances, and such fact shall be recorded in the report of the PEB.
 - 10. The following persons may attend the ballot counting without interfering:
 - 10.1. members and representatives of hierarchically superior electoral bodies;
 - 10.2. representatives of electoral competitors / referendum participants;
 - 10.3. accredited national and international observers;
 - 10.4. journalists authorized by media outlets and approved by the Central Election Commission.
- 11. PEB members shall first complete the Envelope counting protocol, and only after that a results protocol of the PEB.
- 12. PEB shall examine in a deliberative meeting the results of envelope and mail-in ballot counting, which shall be recorded in the protocol approved by a decision of the Bureau, according to the model attached as Annex 1 in the case of presidential elections and Annex 2 in the case of referendum. The protocol shall be signed by all Bureau members. No PEB member may refuse to sign the protocol. If a member does not agree with any information stated in the protocol, he/she can express his/her separate opinion in writing which shall be attached to the protocol. The refusal of a Bureau member to sign the Envelope counting protocol or the results protocol shall not affect the validity thereof. The absence of any signature shall be mentioned in the PEB report.

Section 1. Preparing the Envelope counting protocol

- 13. The model of the Envelope counting protocol shall be created by the Central Election Commission and shall include:
- 13.1. The number of envelopes with mail-in ballots that were sent to voters (item a) of the protocol);
- 13.2. The number of unused envelopes that were not sent to voters and those that could not be delivered to voters and were returned to the electoral bureau (item b) of the protocol);
- 13.3. The number of envelopes received by the electoral bureau before the prescribed voting deadline (item c) of the protocol);
- 13.4. The number of envelopes of voters who also showed up at a polling station (item d) of the protocol);
- 13.5. The number of envelopes received by the electoral bureau after the prescribed voting deadline (item e) of the protocol);
- 13.6. The number of envelopes canceled for reasons listed in Article 27(5)a) of Law No 109/2024 (item f) of the protocol);
- 13.7. The number of envelopes of voters who also showed up at a polling station plus the number of envelopes cancelled for reasons listed in Article 27(5)a) of Law No 109/2024 (item g) of the protocol);

- 13.8. The number of unused and cancelled envelopes (item h) of the protocol);
- 13.9. The number of envelopes with electoral materials sent to voters minus the number of envelopes received by the electoral bureau (item i) of the protocol);
 - 13.10. The number of inner envelopes placed in the ballot box (item j) of the protocol).
- 14. Before opening the ballot boxes with personalized outer envelopes PEB shall determine the number of voters to whom envelopes with mail-in ballots have been sent by using the information recorded in the mail voting-by-mail voters lists and the voting-by-mail information subsystem regarding the date and time of sending the envelope and the contracted mail/delivery service provider. The number thus obtained shall be entered in the Envelope counting protocol under item a), "Number of envelopes with mail-in ballots that were sent to voters".
- 15. Envelopes that could not be delivered to voters and were returned to the electoral bureau (unused) represent envelopes that, for objective reasons, could not be delivered to voters and were returned to the electoral bureau by mail/delivery services before the start of the counting procedure. These shall be canceled and counted separately. The number of these envelopes shall be entered under item b) of the protocol.
- 16. The number of outer envelopes received by PEB before the prescribed voting deadline shall be determined based on the information recorded in the voting-by-mail voters lists and the voting-by-mail information subsystem on the date and time of receiving the envelope and shall be entered in the protocol under item c), "Number of envelopes received by the electoral bureau before the prescribed voting deadline".
- 17. Personalized outer envelopes received by the electoral bureau after the prescribed voting deadline, but before the start of the counting procedure, shall be canceled and counted separately. Their number shall be entered under item e) of the protocol.
- 18. Before opening the ballot boxes, PEB members shall check the integrity of seals affixed on the ballot boxes in the presence of persons authorized to attend electoral operations. If a seal is damaged or there are obvious signs that the ballot box had been opened or envelopes with ballots had been extracted from it, a relevant record shall be drawn up which shall be attached to the protocol of envelope counting results.
- 19. After checking the seals on the ballot boxes the PEB Chairperson shall open the ballot boxes and empty them out onto a desk in the presence of the PEB members and persons authorized to attend electoral operations.
- 20. The outer envelopes from the boxes shall be counted and it shall be checked whether their number coincides with the number of voters on the voting-by-mail voters lists who sent the envelopes before the prescribed voting deadline. If there are found to be more/fewer envelopes in the ballot box than the number of voters on the Voting-by-mail Electoral List who sent the envelopes before the prescribed voting deadline, a report shall be drawn up stating the difference found and the names of voters from whom the envelopes were received.
- 21. Before opening the outer envelopes and checking their contents PEB shall seal the ballot boxes in which inner envelopes will be inserted as set out in Items 32 and 33 of the Instruction on ensuring the polling station infrastructure, approved by the Central Election Commission's Decision No 1186/2023.
- 22. The personalized outer envelopes shall be opened and their contents shall be checked according to the following procedure:
 - 22.1. Check the integrity of the outer envelope;

- 22.2. Open the outer envelope with caution so as not to damage its contents;
- 22.3. After opening the outer envelope check the availability of the depersonalized inner envelope(s) depending on the type of election;
 - 22.4. Make sure the inner envelope(s) is/are properly sealed;
- 22.5. Make sure the completed and signed Declaration regarding the abstention from multiple voting and the confirmation of voting in secret (Declaration).
- 23. If, when checking the contents of the outer envelopes as wet out in Item 22, PEB members find that the inner envelope is not properly sealed, is damaged in such a way that the secrecy of vote is not ensured, lacks the security label or does not contain the Declaration, it shall be cancelled and counted and sealed separately with other similar envelopes. The number of inner envelopes canceled for any of the reasons listed under this item shall be recorded in the PEB report, and the total number of inner envelopes canceled shall be entered under item f) of the protocol.
- 24. After separating and counting canceled outer and inner envelopes PEB members shall scan the unique voter identification code and record the voter's participation in the Voting-by-mail Information subsystem by scanning the remaining envelopes. In the case of several types of elections, mentions shall be made in the voting-by-mail Information subsystem and in the voting-by-mail electoral list under the heading "note", by the tick ("v") next to the type of elections for which each voter voted, according to the valid depersonalized inner envelopes.
- 25. If the voting-by-mail Information subsystem detects a case in which a voter who voted by mail also exercised his/her right to vote at a polling station, the number of the polling station used by him/her for voting shall be indicated opposite such voter's name in the voting-by-mail electoral list, under "Way of voting".

The outer envelopes sent by such voters shall be cancelled and counted separately. Their number shall be entered under item d) of the protocol.

- 26. Ballots from all unused and cancelled envelopes shall be extracted and counted separately.
- 27. The number of outer envelopes sent by voters who also showed up at a polling station plus the number of election-specific inner envelopes canceled for any of the reasons listed in Article 27(5)a) of Law No 109/2024 shall be entered under item g) of the protocol for each type of election.
- 28. The total number of unused enveloped plus the number of cancelled envelopes shall be entered under item h) of the protocol.
- 29. The number of envelopes sent to the voters minus the number of envelopes received by the electoral bureau shall be entered under item i) of the protocol for each type of election separately.
- 30. All other depersonalised inner envelopes, if properly sealed, shall be extracted from outer envelopes, counted for each type of election separately and inserted into the ballot box(es) for sealed inner envelopes, making sure the envelopes are mixed. Their total number shall be entered under item j) of the protocol.

- 31. The model of Results protocol shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission and shall include:
 - 31.1. The number of voters on voting-by-mail electoral lists (item a) of the protocol);
 - 31.2. The number of inner envelopes placed in the ballot box (item b) of the protocol).
 - 31.3. The number of inner envelopes extracted from the ballot box (item c) of the protocol).
 - 31.4. The number of voters who voted in the election (item d) of the protocol);
- 31.5. The number of inner envelopes extracted from the ballot box minus the number of voters who voted in the election (item e) of the protocol);
 - 31.6. The number of ballots declared invalid (item f) of the protocol);
 - 31.7. The total number of valid votes cast (item h) of the protocol);
- 31.8. The number of votes validly cast for each electoral competitor or for each referendum option (item g) of the protocol).
- 32. The number of voters on the voting-by-mail electoral lists shall be entered under item a) of the Results protocol and shall be equal to the number of voters to whom envelopes with mail-in ballots were sent taking into account the persons taken off the list and the envelopes that could not be delivered and were returned.
- 33. The number of inner envelopes inserted into the ballot box shall be taken from item j) of the Envelope counting protocol and entered under item b) of the Results protocol.
- 34. After checking the seals on the ballot boxes with depersonalized inner envelopes PEB Chairperson shall open the ballot boxes with inner envelopes in the presence of PEB members and the persons authorized to attend electoral operations.
- 35. After the ballot boxes are unsealed they are emptied out onto the desk where they are counted, so that the counting process is visible to all PEB members and the persons authorized to attend electoral operations who are present at the procedure. Depersonalized inner envelopes are counted separately for each type of election and their number is entered under item c) of the protocol, "Number of inner envelopes extracted from the ballot box".
- 36. Paper nameplates shall be placed on the desks intended for vote counting specifying the names of electoral competitors or, in the case of referendum, saying "YES" and "NO" according to the referendum options.
- 37. After counting the depersonalized inner envelopes shall be opened and the contents of each envelope shall be checked. Depersonalized inner envelopes shall be opened carefully to prevent damaging the ballots inside. The check shall be done by the Chairperson or a designated member of PEB who shall make sure that there is only one ballot in the envelope for the same type of election.
- 38. If the envelope contains the Declaration and/or more than one ballot for the same type of election, such ballots shall be declared invalid and packed up and sealed separately together with their envelopes. The number of ballots thus declared invalid shall be entered into the PEB report.
- 39. The designated member shall extract ballots from all other depersonalized inner envelopes and hold them up in a way to allow those attending the vote counting process to see them, showing them from both the front and the back. Another member/other members shall place each such ballot on the desk next to the nameplate specifying the name of the electoral competitor or the referendum option for which that vote was cast.
 - 40. The ballots extracted from depersonalized inner envelopes shall be declared invalid

- 40.1. the inner envelope contains two or more ballots for the same type of election;
- 40.2. the inner envelope contains the Declaration;
- 40.3. the identification number of the electoral district and the PEB specified on the envelope do not match that of the respective electoral district and PEB;
 - 40.4. the ballot is of a different model than the one established;
 - 40.5. no circle on the ballot contains a pen-written sign confirming the voter's choice;
- 40.6. the voter's name is written on the ballot paper, which is tantamount to violating the right to secret ballot;
 - 40.7. several signs are written on the ballot making the voter's choice unclear;
- 40.8. the ballot contains a sign confirming the voter's option for an electoral competitor who withdrew or was excluded from the election;
 - 40.9. the ballot is damaged or scrawled making the voter's choice unclear.
- 41. PEB Chairperson shall allow all PEB members and the persons authorized to attend electoral operations to examine the ballot to be declared invalid.
- 42. If PEB members have doubts about the validity of the ballot, the issue shall be resolved by vote and the result of the vote shall be entered in the protocol of PEB meeting.
- 43. Before the number of votes obtained by each electoral competitor or each referendum option is entered in the protocol the representatives of electoral competitors / referendum participants and the persons authorized to attend electoral operations who are present at the counting process shall be allowed to check the correctness of figures in the Mail-in Ballot Counting Protocol.
- 44. After being sorted according to electoral competitors or referendum options and arranged next to the respective nameplates the ballots with validly cast votes shall be counted and tied up separately, and counting results shall be entered in the Results protocolunder item g).
- 45. Bureau members shall determine the number of voters who participated in voting (item d) of the protocol) by determining the number of ballots extracted from depersonalized inner envelopes and comparing it with the number of depersonalized inner envelopes extracted from the ballot box for that type of election. The difference between depersonalized inner envelopes extracted from the ballot box and the number of voters who participated in voting shall be entered under item e) of the protocol.
- 46. PEB Chairperson shall keep records of important events that take place during voting and vote counting, entering all findings in PEB's report to be approved by PEB's decision and according to the model attached as Annex 3. The Chairperson shall sign the report and allow other PEB members to make their comments and supplements to the report in writing. At the request of PEB members, persons authorised to attend electoral operations or any voter, the Chairperson shall note their comments and objections concerning the voting-by-mail procedure in a document to be attached to PEB's report.
- 47. The protocol and reports prepared by PEBs shall be sent by electronic means to DEC for out-of-country voting within 24 hours after all polling stations have closed. The accuracy of data contained in such protocol shall be confirmed by telephone, and any inconsistencies and shortcomings that have been found and sufficiently proven shall be corrected by DEC for out-of-country voting.

Chapter III. Centralizing envelope and mail-in ballot counting results

- 48. After receiving the protocol and reports sent by PEBs DEC shall centralize the results of voting-by-mail according to Article 30 of Law No 109/2024.
- 49. DEC shall centralize the results of envelope counting and the results of mail-in ballot counting received from each electoral district separately, through separate protocol.
- 50. Based on the Envelope counting protocol prepared by PEBs, DEC shall determine for the entire district:
- 50.1. The number of envelopes with mail-in ballots that were sent to voters (item a) of the protocol);
- 50.2. The number of unused envelopes that were not sent to voters and those that could not be delivered to voters and were returned to the electoral bureau (item b) of the protocol);
- 50.3. The number of envelopes received by the electoral bureau before the prescribed voting deadline (item c) of the protocol);
- 50.4. The number of envelopes of voters who also came to vote at a polling station (item d) of the protocol);
- 50.5. The number of envelopes received by the electoral bureau after the prescribed voting deadline (item e) of the protocol);
- 50.6. The number of outer envelopes canceled for reasons listed in Article 27(5)a) of Law No 109/2024 (item f) of the protocol);
- 50.7. The number of envelopes of voters who also showed up at a polling station plus the number of envelopes canceled for reasons listed in Article 27(5)a) of Law No 109/2024 (item g) of the protocol);
 - 50.8. The number of unused and cancelled envelopes (item h) of the protocol);
- 50.9. The number of envelopes with electoral materials sent to voters minus the number of envelopes received by the electoral bureau (item i) of the protocol);
 - 50.10. The number of inner envelopes placed in the ballot box (item j) of the protocol).
- 51. Based on the Results protocolprepared by PEBs, DEC shall determine for the entire district:
- 51.1. The number of voters on Voting-by-mail Electoral Lists (item a) of the protocol);
 - 51.2. The number of inner envelopes placed in the ballot box (item b) of the protocol).
 - 51.3. The number of inner envelopes extracted from the ballot box (item c) of the protocol).
 - 51.4. The number of voters who voted in the election (item d) of the protocol);
- 51.5. The number of inner envelopes extracted from the ballot box minus the number of voters who voted in the election (item e) of the protocol);
 - 51.6. The number of ballots declared invalid (item f) of the protocol);
 - 51.7. The total number of valid votes cast (item h) of the protocol);
- 51.8. The number of votes validly cast for each electoral competitor or for each referendum option (item g) of the protocol).
- 52. Envelope Counting Centralization Protocol and Mail-in Ballot Counting Centralization Protocol shall be approved by DEC by a decision according to the model attached as Annex 4 in the case of presidential elections and Annex 5 in the case of

referendum and shall be signed by all DEC members.

- 53. No member of DEC shall be entitled to refuse to sign the protocol. If a member does not agree with the content of the protocol, he/she can express his/her separate opinion in writing which shall be attached to the protocol. The refusal of a DEC member to sign the protocol shall not affect the validity thereof. The DEC member's refusal to sign and any other reasons for the absence of a signature shall be mentioned in DEC's report. Copies of Voting-by-mail Result Protocol, certified by DEC Chairperson's signature and DEC seal, shall be handed to persons authorized to attend electoral operations upon their request.
- 54. The Chairperson of DEC shall prepare a separate DEC report based on the written record of DEC activities to secure the right of voting-by-mail, which shall be approved by DEC decision according to the model attached as Annex 6. DEC Chairperson shall sign the report and allow other DEC members to make their comments and supplements to the report in writing. Any requests and appeals shall be attached to the report.
- 55. DEC shall submit Envelope Counting Centralization Protocol, Mail-in Ballot Counting Centralization Protocol and its report to the Central Electoral Commission (CEC) within 48 hours after the closing of polling stations based on the protocol sent by them by electronic means. Along with submitting the protocol to CEC, DEC shall display, at the entrance to its headquarters, detailed information on the election results by district.
- 56. Based on the data presented by DEC, CEC shall include centralized results of voting-by-mail in its all-national Results protocol under Article 30 of Law No 109/2024, as well as in the Election Result Report.

Chapter IV. Systematizing and handing over electoral documents (materials) and equipment after the tabulation of voting-by-mail ballots

- 57. Electoral officials within electoral bodies shall be responsible for the integrity of electoral documents and equipment in their possession. The DEC and the Central Election Commission shall be immediately notified of the disappearance of/damage to documents or equipment. The fact of disappearance/damage shall be confirmed by a report according to the model attached as Annex 7 to the Regulation on the peculiarities of organizing and implementing voting-by-mail, signed by members of the relevant electoral body.
 - 58. The following will be taken into account in the process of document grouping:
 - 58.1. All duplicates and/or copies of documents shall be removed;
- 58.2. Documents shall be checked to make sure they have all the necessary elements of a document (signatures, date, seal etc.);
 - 58.3. Only original documents shall be submitted to higher hierarchical bodies;
- 58.4. Envelope counting protocol, Results protocol and reports prepared by electoral bureaus shall be submitted together with the decisions on their approval.

Section 1. Systematizing and submitting electoral documents

- 59. The **voting-by-mail PEB** shall systematize the following electoral documents and send them to DEC through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:
 - 59.1. Decision on approving Envelope counting protocol, Results protocol and the

report;

- 59.2. Envelope counting protocol *in two copies*;
- 59.3. Results protocol *in two copies*;
- 59.4. Ballot Number Confirmation Report in one copy;
- 59.5. Electoral Bureau's Report *in one copy*;
- 59.6. Requests and appeals <u>in one original copy</u>, accompanied by decisions on their settlement <u>in one original copy</u> and the Register of Appeals <u>in one copy</u>. The Register of Appeals shall be made and submitted only in case of appeals received from voters and/or electoral competitors/referendum participants;
 - 59.7. Decisions of the electoral bureau with documents attached, *in one original copy*;
- 59.8. Electoral Bureau Meetings Protocol with documents attached, *in one original copy*.
 - 60. The documents referred to in item 59 shall be sent to DEC:
- 60.1. by electronic means (through information systems) **no later than 24 hours after Envelope counting protocol and Results protocol were made**, so as to enable the deciphering of data. The accuracy of data contained in such protocol shall be confirmed by telephone, and any inconsistencies and shortcomings that have been found and sufficiently proven shall be corrected by the respective DEC, except for data regarding the number of votes cast for electoral competitors/referendum options;
- 60.2. in original copies via diplomatic mail **no later than 48 hours after Envelope counting protocol and Results protocol were made**. PEB Chairperson shall be responsible and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall provide support for sending the protocol and other electoral documents and materials to DEC by signing the Delivery and Acceptance Report according to the model attached as Annex 7.
- 61. Other types of documents and materials (Delivery and Acceptance Reports for Voting-by-mail Electoral Lists, ballot papers, seals, ballot box seals and other documents made between PEB and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the higher hierarchical electoral body, as well as decisions, registers, requests etc.) shall be grouped into categories and placed in unsealed folders indicating the types of documents.

After the completion of the electoral period unsealed folders with other types of electoral documents shall be sent through DEC to be kept for 5 years in CEC's archives.

- 62. **DEC** shall systematize its own documents and those received from electoral bureaus and send them to CEC as follows:
- 62.1. Centralization envelope counting protocol and Centralization results protocol of the DEC together with the decision on their approval, *in one copy*;
- 62.2. Envelope counting protocol and Results protocol of electoral bureaus, together with decisions on their approval and Ballot Number Confirmation Reports, *each in one copy*;
 - 62.3. The report of DEC, together with the decision on its approval, *in one copy*;
- 62.4. The requests and appeals submitted to DEC, accompanied by decisions on their resolution and Registers of Appeals, *each in one original copy*;
- 62.5. Reports of electoral bureaus, together with decisions on their approval, <u>each in</u> <u>one copy</u>;
- 62.6. Requests and appeals submitted to electoral bureaus, accompanied by decisions on their resolution and Registers of Appeals, *each in one original copy*.

Section 2. Packaging, sealing and delivery of electoral documents (materials)

- 63. The electoral Office shall pack and seal the envelopes and ballot papers as follows:
- 63.1. Cancelled personalized outer envelopes together with Declaration forms shall be packed and sealed separately, 100 pieces a pack;
- 63.2. Depersonalized inner envelopes extracted from unused and cancelled outer envelopes shall be packed and sealed together with *ballot papers* separately, by type of election;
- 63.3. Valid personalized outer envelopes together with No Multiple Voting Declaration forms and the Secret Voting Confirmation forms shall be packed and sealed separately, 100 pieces a pack;
 - 63.4. *Invalid ballots* shall be packed and sealed separately, by type of election;
- 63.5. *Ballots validly cast* for each electoral competitor / referendum option (YES/NO) shall be packed and sealed separately (the number of packs shall correspond to the number of electoral competitors who obtained valid votes; in the case of the referendum, there shall be 1 pack for YES and 1 pack for NO). Then all bunches shall be sealed and placed in separate bags by category of election.

For easier record-keeping of outer and inner envelopes, declaration forms and invalid ballots, each pack shall specify the type of packed documents and their number, and the packs with valid ballots shall specify the name of the electoral competitor/the YES/NO option and the number of ballots.

- 64. The documents (materials) referred to in item 63, packed and sealed according to the requirements, shall be placed in a bag made of durable paper specifying the type and date of the election, the name and number of the polling station, the name and number of the electoral district, the types of documents packed and the number of packages sealed, according to the model attached as Annex 8. The bag shall be sealed by using self-locking seals.
- 65. The voting-by-mail voter lists, along with delistment requests, shall be placed in a cardboard folder with laces which shall be sealed. The folder shall specify the type and date of the election, the name and number of the polling station, the name and number of the electoral district, the name of the electoral list and the number of packed sheets, according to the model attached as Annex 9.
- 66. DEC shall systematize the electoral lists in the numerical order of PEBs and pack them in bags made of durable paper specifying the type and date of the election, the name and number of the electoral district, the number of the polling station and the number of files according to the model attached as Annex 10.
- 67. In the case of the second round of elections the electoral lists packed in accordance with item 65 shall be sent to DEC after the second round of voting together with the documents required to centralize its results.
- 68. Based on a Delivery and Acceptance Report made according to the model attached as Annex 11 the PEB shall hand over to DEC through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, within 48 hours after the end of counting procedures, all electoral documents packed and/or sealed as required herein, as well as unused ballot box seals and security labels, election seals, inkpots, perforators and other electoral equipment received by it for carrying out the voting process.

69. In the case of the second round of election, PEBs shall only send the electoral documents specified in item 63 to DEC after the first round of voting. Other electoral documents or materials shall be submitted after the second round of election.

70. DEC shall hand over:

- 70.1. to CEC, based on a Delivery and Acceptance Report according to the model attached as Annex 12, the electoral documents referred to in items 63.1 to 63.3, unused ballot box seals and security labels, election seals, magnifiers and other electoral equipment, etc.;
- 70.2. to the territorial police inspectorate responsible for the district of the DEC, based on a Delivery and Acceptance Report according to the model attached as Annex 13, the documents referred to in items 63.4 to 63.5 and 65, sealed and received from electoral bureaus.
- 71. The provisions of this chapter shall also apply to the systematization of electoral documents prepared during the second round of elections for the Office of President of the Republic of Moldova.