

CODE ON ELECTION CAMPAIGN ETHICS ORDER**ARRANGEMENT OF ORDERS****ORDER**

1. Citation.
2. The Code.

CODE ON ELECTION CAMPAIGN ETHICS ORDER

[LN 36 of 1996.]

[Made under section 92 (1).]

[Date of commencement: 21st August, 1996.]

1. Citation

This Order may be cited as the Code on Election Campaign Ethics Order (hereinafter referred to as “the Code”).

2. The Code

The Code is as follows—

Binding Effect of the Code—

1. This Code on Election Campaign Ethics shall be binding on all political parties and candidates contesting any position in all elections conducted by the Independent Electoral Commission.

2. Acceptance and adherence to this Code on Election Campaign Ethics shall be a condition for the registration of a political party to take part in any election conducted by the Commission and for the acceptance of a candidate’s nomination paper in any such election.

3. In this Code, references to “political parties” shall, as provided in the context, include independent candidates.

Code of Campaign Ethics—

1. All political parties shall—

- (a) respect the fundamental principles of the State as enshrined in the Constitution, and comply with the provisions of the Election Act, Cap. 3:01, and with all regulations, rules, notices and orders prepared by the Commission;

- (b) be deemed to be aware of their rights and obligations, and shall respect the rights of others;
 - (c) extend full cooperation to the Commission and election officials in order to guarantee the integrity of the election and to ensure that safety and security are maintained throughout the election; and
 - (d) extend all necessary help and co-operation to the law enforcement agencies throughout the electoral process.
2. Political parties, their candidates or any independent candidate, agents, workers and supporters of political parties or any independent candidate shall—
- (a) carry out their campaign in keeping with high ethical and moral standards and respect due to other political parties and candidates, the voters and the generality of the Gambian people and shall also conduct their campaign in a manner and spirit that will promote a congenial and peaceful atmosphere throughout the electoral process;
 - (b) not post banners, posters, placards, drawings, billboards or other similar material on public buildings, national monuments, religious institutions or private property without the owner's express consent;
 - (c) not insult or slander another candidate, or use any language which is inflammatory, defamatory or insulting or which constitutes an incitement to public disorder, insurrection, hate, violence or war;
 - (d) not abuse or engage in the improper use of Government property for political propaganda purpose;
 - (e) not campaign in public offices, educational institution or house of instruction during working hours;
 - (f) not hold campaign meetings within the premises of military units and police stations at any time;
 - (g) not in any way disrupt, destroy or frustrate the campaign efforts of other political parties or candidates;
 - (h) through their campaign activities, explicitly condemn and discourage the use of violence or threats of violence, vandalism and public disorder;
 - (i) through their campaign activities, seek to foster a spirit of tolerance and multi-culturalism among Gambians;
 - (j) refrain from action or making speeches based on, or which may incite or which are calculated to incite sentiments of a sectional, divisive religious, ethnic or regional nature;
 - (k) not carry lethal or dangerous weapons during their campaign, and not use fire crackers or any other explosive materials at public meetings, and shall actively condemn and prohibit the use of those materials by their supporters;

- (l) not coerce or offer monetary or other kinds of inducement to any person to vote for or against, to abstain from voting for, a particular political party or candidature;
- (m) whenever they plan to hold a demonstration or procession, submit a written request to the Commission indicating the date, time and place of the holding of such event, at least three days in advance.

Breach of the Code—

3. A breach of the provisions of this Code shall result to the cancellation of the registration of a political party or, in the case of an independent candidate, the cancellation of the nomination of the candidate.
