

PRESS RELEASE



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Learning international experience in the field of multi-party elections

Ashgabat, 14 October 2013 – In the framework of 2013 Annual Work Plan of the Project “Enhancing Electoral System and Processes in Turkmenistan” signed between the Central Election Commission of Turkmenistan and the Representative Office of the United Nations Development Programme in Turkmenistan, a series of trainings are conducted with participation of International Consultants. These trainings are aimed at institutional development and capacity building of the staff of the Central Election Commission of Turkmenistan. The first training on administration of multi-party elections was conducted in August 2013 with participation of international consultant Ms. Renata Lapti.

Another main activity in the framework of the annual work plan was a training for electoral contestants conducted according to the BRIDGE methodology on 24-26 September 2013 with participation of International Consultants Mr. Giorgi Sharabidze and Natia Kashakashvili. The representatives from the Central Election Commission of Turkmenistan, members of the regional election administrations, political parties and non-governmental organizations attended the training.

The training was conducted in interactive manner, during which the participants discussed the presentations, devoted to international experience and national practices on preparation and conducting of parliamentary elections with participation of political parties. The training participants increased their awareness and technical skills in the field of international standards on conducting multi-party elections and enhancing the organizational structure of electoral bodies on the basis of the BRIDGE methodology.

The international consultants met with the Head of Central Election Commission (CEC) and discussed the development of the CEC staff’s capacity in implementation of the recently adopted Election Code and enhancing the election process to integrate a wide range of stakeholders and groups as well as issues of increasing awareness among public at large. The sides mentioned the important role of UNDP Turkmenistan in rendering technical assistance in implementation of main provisions of the legislation of Turkmenistan on elections and political parties.

“The training helped better understand the international experience in preparation and conducting of multi-party parliamentary elections. The presented methodology and organizational approaches discussed during the training can be applied by political parties in nominating candidates, agitation, and increasing public awareness in electoral processes of elections campaign”, notes Mr. Didar Gurbanniyazov, representative from Balkan Velayat Election Commission.

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