



INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION (INEC)

**REGULATIONS FOR VOTING BY INTERNALLY DISPLACED
PERSONS (IDPs)**

DECEMBER 2018

ABUJA, NIGERIA

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[Short title: Regulations for IDP Voting]

1.0 PREAMBLE

Pursuant to the powers conferred on the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) herewith referred to as the Commission by Section 15 (a) (1) of the Third Schedule to the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and Section 26 (1) of the Electoral Act 2010 (as amended), the Commission hereby issues the following Regulations for Voting by Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). These Regulations are issued as Independent National Electoral Commission Decision Extract No. of ... November 2018.

- 1.1 Definition of IDP:** Internally Displaced Persons under this Regulations are qualified Nigerian voters who have relocated temporarily or permanently from their places of habitual residence as a result of conflict, insecurity or other natural or man-made emergencies and so are unable to vote in their normal delimitation/polling locations.
- 1.2 Classification of IDPs by Location:** There shall be broad classification for IDPs identified on basis of location namely, Intrastate and Interstate. Whereas intrastate IDP refers to those internally displaced within a state, Interstate IDP refers to the internally displaced but hosted in a state other than their state of habitual residence.
- 1.3 Election Category:** For intra-state IDP voting, displaced persons shall vote or participate in all elections, undertaken and supervised by the Commission using their PVCs after which collation and transmission of the results will be done using special forms and guidelines for such purpose.

For inter-state IDP voting, displaced persons shall vote or participate in only the presidential election using their PVCs after which collation and transmission of the results will be done using special forms and guidelines for such purpose.

- 1.4 **Delimitation:** State offices of INEC shall carry out IDP surveys and organize IDPs according to their delimitation in collaboration with stakeholders.
- 1.5 **Continuous Voters Register (CVR):** INEC offices are to undertake Continuous Voter Registration to cover IDPs at their location.
- 1.6 **Distribution of PVCs:** Arrangement for distribution and collection of PVCs at the IDP camps and other designated points shall be by the State office.
- 1.7 **Establishment of IDP Voting Centers:** INEC shall in consultation with stakeholders establish IDP Voting Centers at registered/approved IDP camps where displaced persons will vote during elections
- 1.8 **Smart Card Reader (IVAS):** The INEC Voter Authentication System (IVAS) also known as the Smart Card Reader shall be configured to RA level in the case of intrastate IDP voting and to the state level in the case of interstate IDP voting.
- 1.9 **Use of PVC for Voting:** Voting at the IDP centers shall be with the use of Permanent Voters Cards (PVC) only as is applicable in all Polling Units throughout the Country.
- 1.10 **Register of Voter:** Intrastate IDP Voter Register shall be the standard Voter Register while for Interstate IDPs the Voter Register shall be for only the affected LGAs.
- 1.11 **Security:** The Commission shall collaborate with security agencies & ICCES in developing special security arrangements targeted at IDP voting operations, IDP camps & voting centers.
- 1.12 **Result Transmission:** Transmission of results at IDP voting centers shall be based on the standard transmission procedures approved by the Commission.

- 1.13 Merging of Results:** Merging of results at intrastate IDP voting shall occur at the RA level of collation whereas for interstate, this shall occur at the state level collation and for the presidential election.
- 1.14 Election Results:** There shall be a design of special result sheets for RA level for intrastate and state level voting for interstate.
- 1.15 Logistics Arrangement:** Existing logistic arrangement for deployment and retrieval of election staff and materials may be adapted for implementation at the IDP voting centers.
- 1.16 Engagement with stakeholders:** Stakeholder engagement shall be at four (4) strategic levels namely national, state, LGA and IDP camps.
- 1.17 Partnership for Voter Education:** Partnership with the Commission on voter education shall be based on clear sets of criteria provided by the Commission to ensure capacity, professionalism and competence.
- 2.0 Application of the Rules and Regulations for the 2019 General Elections:** These rules and regulations shall be applicable to voting at IDP camps or voting centers as and where no specific regulations and guidelines are provided. Any appendix to these Regulations and Guidelines shall constitute an integral part of the Regulations and Guidelines guiding IDP voting.