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Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
AUTOMATED ELECTION
SYSTEM (AES) POLICY
DIRECTIONS**

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|-------------------------|--------------|
| MELO, Jose A.R. | Chairman |
| SARMIENTO, Rene V. | Commissioner |
| FERRER, Nicodemo T. | Commissioner |
| TAGLE, Lucenito N. | Commissioner |
| VELASCO, Armando C. | Commissioner |
| YUSOPH, Elias R. | Commissioner |
| LARRAZABAL, Gregorio Y. | Commissioner |

Promulgated: November 17, 2009

RESOLUTION NO. 8698

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WHEREAS, there is a need to finalize the policies relative to the conduct of the Automated Election System (AES) for the May 10, 2010 national and local elections in order to provide directions to the COMELEC Project Management Office and the Smartmatic-TIM Project Management Team on the preparations necessary to ensure as successful implementation of the AES;

WHEREAS, the COMELEC Advisory Council, upon the request of the Commission, has submitted its recommendations on the policy directions for the successful implementation of the AES;

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, Republic Acts Numbered 9369, 8436 and other election laws, the Commission on Elections, after due deliberation, **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to promulgate the following policy directions for the Automated Election System in the May 10, 2010 national and local elections, as follows:


1. The ballot box shall have only one compartment.
2. Rejected ballots will be returned to the voter, who will in turn give the same to the Board of Election Inspectors. The voter will not be issued a replacement ballot.
3. A vote is considered valid if the mark or shade on the oval reaches the threshold of 50%.
4. The ballot shall contain the name of the candidate, stage name/nickname and political party affiliation. For every position, each candidate shall be

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assigned a number which shall be in sequential order beginning with the number "1" in accordance with their alphabetical listing.

5. Party-list groups shall be listed on the ballot by their acronym. The full name of the party-list group shall be indicated in a certified list which shall be printed in newsprint for distribution to all precincts or clustered precincts. Each party-list group shall also be assigned a number which shall be in sequential order beginning with the number "1" in accordance with their alphabetical listing.
6. The procurement of ballot boxes shall be through any of the applicable alternative methods of procurement authorized under Republic Act No. 9184. To expedite the manufacturing process, the manufacturing contract may be multi-sourced, provided such fact of multi-sourcing shall be disclosed in the Request for Proposal.
7. Since the estimated cost for the manufacture of ballot boxes is more than the approved budget, the required additional funds shall be taken from the balance of the PHP11.3 Billion budget of the 2010 automated election system. For this purpose, the Finance Services Department shall prepare the necessary documentation for the realignment of the funds intended for the procurement of the ballot boxes.

Let the Project Director of the Project Management Office for the May 10, 2010 AES implement this Resolution.


JOSE A.R. MELO
Chairman


RENE V. SARMIENTO
Commissioner


NICODEMO T. FERRER
Commissioner


LUCENITO N. TAGLE
Commissioner


ARMANDO C. VELASCO
Commissioner


ELIAS R. YUSOPH
Commissioner


GREGORIO Y. LARRAZABAL
Commissioner