



**International Observation Mission
Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States
Early Presidential Election of the Republic of Kazakhstan
9 June 2019**

STATEMENT

The International Election Observer Mission of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (Turkic Council) (hereinafter referred to as the Mission) conducted observation of the Early Presidential Election of the Republic of Kazakhstan (hereinafter referred to as the Presidential Election) on 9 June 2019.

The Mission is composed of 15 officials from the Secretariat of the Turkic Council, as well as the Central Election Commission representatives, academicians and government officials of the Member States other than Kazakhstan –namely; Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey.

The Mission observed the Elections in Nur-Sultan and Almaty. The delegations in Nur-Sultan and Almaty were divided into two groups, respectively in order to observe the Elections in different districts of the cities.

The Mission carried out its activities in accordance with the national legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as well as generally recognized rules of international law on the organization and conduct of elections, without interfering in the electoral process and the sovereignty of the State.

In the framework of the observation of the pre-election process, on 5-7 June 2019, the Mission had meetings with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Roman Vasilenko, Chairman of Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Berik Imashev and Chairman of the Election Commission of Almaty, Mrs. Zhanna Asanova, the Executive Powers

in Nur-Sultan and Almaty cities, as well as the representatives of Public Association National Patriotic Movement “Ult Tagdyry” (Fate of the Nation), “Ak Zhol” Party, People’s Democratic Party «Auyl», “Nur Otan” Party, Federation of Trade Unions, and Communist People’s Party.

On the Election Day, the Turkic Council delegation attended the opening of the polling station in Almaty. Tabulation of ballots and results was conducted in time according to the national election legislation.

The Mission visited 38 polling stations in total: 15 in Nur-Sultan and 23 in Almaty. The Mission did not find any evidence of intervention of administrative or law enforcement authorities in the activities of the polling stations. All necessary administrative measures were taken to ensure the free will of the people during the voting day.

In line with the electoral law, necessary conditions were provided to national and international observers to conduct impartial observation of the Elections. The Mission has witnessed participation of the national and international observers, which reinforces the legitimacy and transparency of the Elections.

The Mission also participated in the vote-counting process at the polling station No. 112 of Esil election district in Nur-Sultan. Counting of ballots and announcement of results were conducted in time according to the national election legislation.

The Mission observed that there were no serious technical problems, which would affect the results of the election. The Mission observed no campaign materials visible inside or outside the polling stations, nor were there any campaign activities taking place nearby the polling stations. The polling stations were mostly accessible for persons with disabilities. There were also braille alphabet templates for blind voters and mobile ballot boxes for those who could not cast their ballots at the polling stations. The Mission observed no attempt by any outsider to influence voters on how to vote, was given full access to the polling stations, and received necessary information from the polling station officials.

Electoral participation was high and the polls have been prepared in compliance with electoral law. The widespread coverage of the elections by the media outlets

of the country can be noted as an element contributing to the legitimacy and transparency of the election process.

In conclusion, International Election Observer Mission of Turkic Council affirms that the Early Presidential Election of the Republic of Kazakhstan was open, transparent and competitive, and complied with the national legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan and internationally recognised election standards.