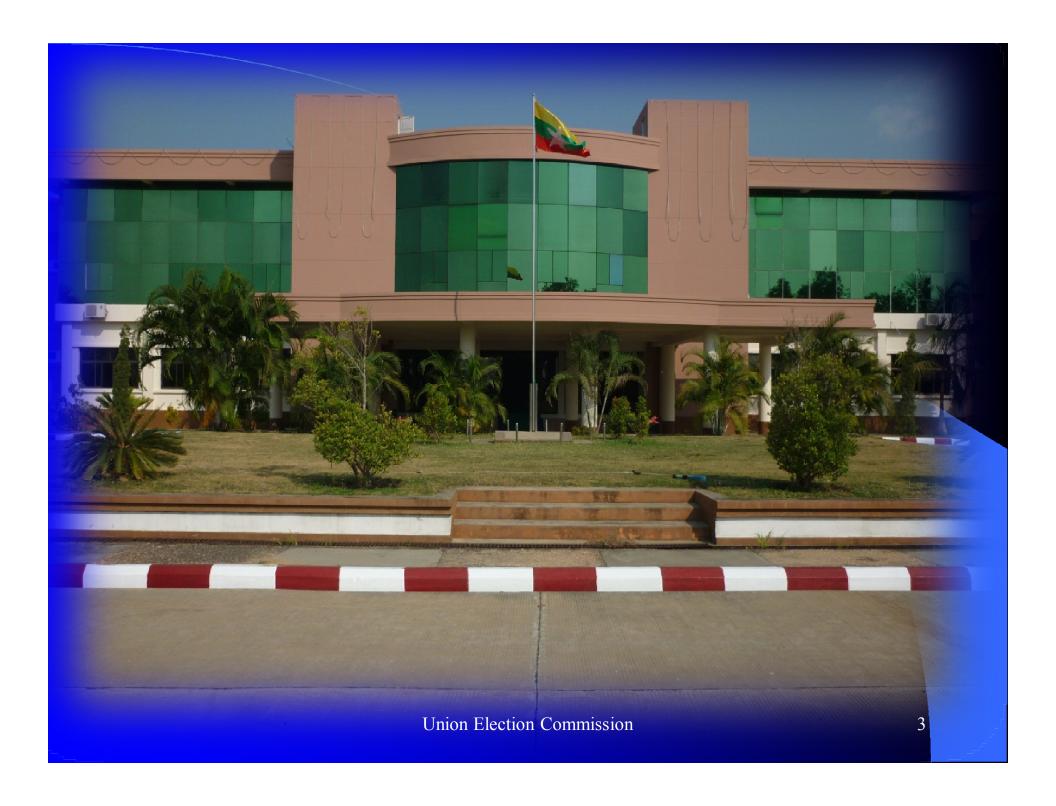


# **Functions and Mandates of Union Election Commission**

Union Election Commission Republic of the Union of Myanmar





#### Formation of the Union Election Commission

- The establishment of the UEC is mandated by the Article 398 of the Constitution of Myanmar which empowers it to conduct the elections and related functions.
- The Union Election Commission was formed by order no. (1/2010), on March 11, 2010, with (16) members and the Chairman U Thein Soe.

•Each member is assigned to supervise respective state or region, except Shan State. Being a large region, Shan State is supervised by three members. Ethnic members are assigned to their region of origin, i.e., Ka-chin State is supervised by Kachin nationality member.

## **Preparations for 2010 General Elections**

- Publishing and distribution of the law, rules and guidelines books (8th Mar. & 17th Mar., 2010)
- Set up of various sub-commissions (7<sup>th</sup> Apr. to 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug., 2010)
- Delimitation and Declaration of the constituencies (11th Aug., 2010)
- Election day announcement (13th Aug., 2010, Election Day- 7th Nov., 2010; 87 days before the Election.)

- Candidates nomination, scrutiny, withdrawal and announcement of candidates lists (13<sup>th</sup> Aug. to 30<sup>th</sup> Sep 2010)
- Fixing campaigning time for political parties through states owned media (24th Sep. to 30th Oct.)
- Distribution of ballot boxes, ballot papers and polling booths
- Sending ballot papers inside and outside of the country for those who are being abroad with official permission, receiving back the ballot papers from abroad and forwarding to respective sub-commissions

## **Holding the 2010 General Elections**

Election Day

- 7th Nov. (Sunday), 2010.
- No. of eligible voters 29,021,608

Voters turnout

- 22,421,123

• Voting(%)

- 77.26%
- 2987 candidates from (37) political parties and (82) individual candidates contested and 1,154 were elected.
- Total constituencies= 1154
- Representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw

- 325

Representatives of Amyotha Hluttaw

- 168
- Representatives of Region or State Hluttaw 661
- (6) individuals and (1148) candidates from (22) political parties

## Follow up after 2010 General Elections

- Submission of election expenses by the candidates.
- Setting up of electoral tribunals for 28 electoral objections and resolution

#### Formation of New Election Commission

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar appointed the Union Election Commission, by Order No.(5/2011), approved by parliament and it was formed on March(30), 2011, comprising (7) members, headed by the Chairman U Tin Aye.

## Preparations for 2012 By-elections and Election Day Announcement

- Announcement of election day and vacant constituencies (29<sup>th</sup> Dec., 2011; Election Day 1<sup>st</sup> Apr., 2012 93 days before the election)
- Meetings with State/Region sub-commissions, political parties and related ministries
- Candidates nomination, scrutiny, withdrawal and announcement of candidates lists (16<sup>th</sup> Jan. to 6<sup>th</sup> Feb., 2012)
- Fixing airing time for campaigning of political parties through stateowned media
- Distribution of ballot papers and registration forms for advanced voting
- Sending ballot papers inside and outside of the country for those who
  are being abroad with official permission, receiving back the ballot
  papers from abroad and forwarding to respective sub-commissions
- Workshops and press conferences

## **Holding the By-elections**

- Election Day 1st April, 2012 (Saturday)
- Number of constituencies 45
- 150 candidate from 17 political parties and 7 individuals contested. (total candidates= 157)
- No. of eligible voters = 6,486,663
- Voters turnout = 4,423,095
- Voting(%) = 68.19 %A
- 45 seats in total; 37 seats for Pyithu Hluttaw, 6 seats for Amyotha Hluttaw and 2 seats for Region or State Hluttaw
- National League for Democracy(NLD) won 37 seats in Pyithu Hluttaw,
   4 seats in Amyotha Hluttaw and 2 seats in State/Region Hluttaw.
- Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) and Shan National Democratic Party(SNDP) won one seat each in Amyotha Hluttaw.
- Domestic and international observers are allowed to observe.

## Follow ups after By-elections

- Submission of election expenses by the candidates.
- Setting up of electoral tribunals for (4) electoral objections and resolution.

## Tabulations of two elections

Items	2010 General Elections	2012 By-elections
Election Day	7.11.2010 ( Sunday )	1.4.2012 ( Saturday )
States/Region	14	9
District	67	32
Township	325	56
Parties Contested	37	17
Parties Elected	22	3
No. of representatives elected from political parties	1148	45
Individual Candidates	82	7
No. of elected individual candidates	6	Nil
No. of elected candidates	325 (Pyithu Hluttaw)	37 (Pyithu Hluttaw)
	168 (Amyotha Hluttaw) - 1154	6 (Amyotha Hluttaw) - 45
	661 (Region or State)	2 (Region or State)

Elected Representatives (Men)	311 (Pyithu Hluttaw)+ 162 (Amyotha Hluttaw)+ 636 (Region or State) = 1109	25 (Pyithu Hluttaw)+ 6 (Amyotha Hluttaw)+ 1 (Region or State) = 32
Elected Representatives (Women)	14 (Pyithu Hluttaw) + 6 (Amyotha Hluttaw) + 25 (Region or State) = 45	12 (Pyithu Hluttaw)+ 0 (Amyotha Hluttaw)+ 1 (Region or State) = 13
Result Announcement	Within 10 days	Within 2 days
Electoral Objections	9 ( Pyithu Hluttaw )	4 ( Pyithu Hluttaw )
	3 (Amyotha Hluttaw)	
	7 (Region Hluttaw )	
	10 (State Hluttaw)	
	Total=29-(1) = 28 ( Withdrawal=1 )	
No. submitted election expense	2934	157
No. failed to submit election expense	121	Nil
Total Cost	10 Billion Kyats	660 Million Kyats

#### No. of men and women elected in two elections

#### \* Male Representatives

Pyithu Hluttaw	- 336
Amyotha Hlutaw	- 168
Region or State Hluttaw	- 637

**Total** = 1141

#### \* Female Representatives

Pyithu Hluttaw	<b>- 26</b>
Amyotha Hlutaw	- 6
Region or State Hluttaw	- 26

**Total** = **58** 

#### **Duties and Powers of Union Election Commission**

- ☐ To convene free and fair elections
- ☐ To scrutinize electoral objections
- ☐ To supervise the political parties to ensure that they
- conduct in accordance with political party registration law
- and rules
- □ 70 Political Parties (As Of 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb., 2015)

### **Sub-commissions**

- (1) Nay Pyi Taw Sub-commission 1
- (2) Region or State Sub-commission 14
- (3) Self Administered Division and

**Self Administered Zones** 6

- (4) District Sub-commission 72
- (5) Township Sub-commission 326

As per the instruction of Union Election Commission, state and region sub-commissions formed (15,998) ward/village tract sub-commissions.

## Structure of state, region, district and township subcommissions

(1) Trusted and dignified persons = (6) (including chairman and members)

(2) Government officials = (9)

(a) Immigration department Member

(b) Health department Member

(c) Legal department Member

(d) Education department Member

(e) Audit department Member

(f) Municipal department Member

(g) Agriculture department Member

(h) Information department Member

(i) General Administration Department Secretary

## 2015 General Election

UEC is striving to convene 2015 General Election to be a free, fair and credible manner.

To be a free, fair and credible elections, UEC will perform a role of neutrality, impartiality, inclusiveness and transparency in all processes.

In order to have a correct and complete Voter List, the project is commenced in November 2014. The Voter List, later, will then be stored in UEC's main server and it will be hosted on UEC's website.

Drafting of Code of Conduct for Party Campaigning is currently under-processing which will then be finalized by Union Election Commission. (UEC)

Drafting of Code of Conduct for Election Observation is also currently under-processing which will then be finalized by UEC.

International and Domestic Observers will be allowed to observe 2015 Elections, proving that the work done by UEC is free, fair and transparent.

Sub-commissions will be given trainings related to election laws, by-laws, guidelines, etc. and political parties, CSOs and media will also be invited for their contribution in collaboration on trainings.

Some of the major institutions that are working with UEC are;

IFES, EU, UNDP, IDEA, NDI, IRI, The Carter Center, The Asia Foundation.

## Who makes the elections successful?

The success of elections depends largely on ...

- 1. The Commission
- 2. People
- 3. Political Parties

Others that could contribute to credibility...

- 1. CSOs
- 2. Media

(  $\mathsf{but}\ \mathsf{non} ext{-}\mathsf{partisan}\ \mathsf{and}\ \mathsf{impartiality}\ \mathsf{is}\ \mathsf{crucial}$  )

#### **International Observers**

UEC members & members from Sub-commissions were observed in USA, Japan, Thailand, Pakistan, Malaysia, Australia, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Indonesia, South Korea and Belgium Elections as international observers.

## Current Activities

- UEC's 5-year Strategic Plan
- Registration of political parties
- Assignment and replacement of military representatives nominated in accordance with the law, by Commander in Chief
- Co-operations with international electoral organizations
- Recruiting new staffs to sub-commissions
- Amendment and supplement of orders, instructions and guidelines

## Conclusion

• The UEC is now trying the best to fulfill the objective of holding the 2015 General Elections to be credible, free, fair and transparent manner in cooperation with the political parties, civil societies and the public.

## Thank You.

PowerPoint presented by Member U Win Kyi at the "Third Myanmar DevelopmentCooperation Forum"

7-8 Febuary, 2015.

MICC II, Nay Pyi Taw.