

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICAN STATES AND THE CENTRAL ELECTION
COMMISSION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as the «Sides»),

taking into account the need to:

MEMORANDUM

Reaffirming commitment to democracy and respect for faith in free and fair democratic
processes;

Seeking to strengthen cooperation in the field of electoral management
and administration;

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and other professional cooperation;

Acknowledging the need to establish a mechanism for cooperation in the design and
implementation of the electoral process; and for exchange of mutual consultation and
assistance in the field of electoral management and administration;

Recognizing the value of the cooperation;

The Sides have agreed to cooperate on mutually approved provisions in the mutually
agreed areas of cooperation in the field of electoral management and administration, including:

— exchange of information on electoral law and experience in the field of
electoral management and administration; and
— exchange of information on electoral procedures, with a view to
improving the electoral process in both countries.

— support in the field of electoral management and administration, including

— exchange of information on electoral law and experience in the field of

electoral management and administration;

— exchange of information on electoral law and experience in the field of

electoral management and administration, with a view to

improving the electoral process in both countries.

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The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as the «Sides»),

Taking into account relationship formed between the Sides;

Reaffirming commitment to democracy and reposing faith in free and fair democratic process;

Seeking to strengthen democratic institution in order to improve electoral management and administration;

Considering the need to build on experience gained by the Sides and exchange expertise and other professional information;

Acknowledging the need to establish a mechanism for cooperation in the design and implementation of the electoral process; and for exchange, mutual consultation and cooperation in the field of electoral management and administration;

Have reached the following understandings:

1. The Sides decide to promote cooperation on mutually approved provisions in the mutually identified priority areas in the field of electoral management and administration, including:

- promotion of exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of organizational and technical development of electoral process, with a view to developing the practice of management and administration;
- support in exchanging information, materials, expertise and organizing training of personnel;
- facilitating relationships with other electoral authorities and organizations;
- production and distribution of materials pertaining to electoral systems, voting technology, voter's education and awareness, participation of women, minorities, invalids, enhancing participation in electoral process;

- exchange of experience in the sphere of improvement of the national legislation on elections and referenda, as well as of separate institutes of the legislation on elections and referenda;
- development and use of modern electronic and information technologies in electoral process, and
- any other modality of cooperation as mutually decided by the Sides.

2. With a view to maintaining an appropriate mechanism for implementation and follow up of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereafter referred to as «Memorandum»), the Sides will conduct regular consultations on the following issues:

- identifying and evaluating priority areas of cooperation in particular organizational and technical fields of activity;
- recommending and preparing instruments designed to identify activities, programmes and projects to be executed, as well as arrangements for their implementation;
- overseeing proper observance of and compliance with this Memorandum.

3. Nothing in this Memorandum will, in any way, prevent either Side from entering into bilateral agreements with other electoral authorities and organizations on matters covered under this Memorandum.

The Sides understand that any cooperative activities carried out under this Memorandum will be subject to the availability of financial and human resources of the Sides.

4. In the implementation of this Memorandum, the Sides will conclude project documents for organizational and technical cooperation activities, setting out provisions of such cooperation and the financial resources required.

5. Any dispute that arises in connection with the application or interpretation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be resolved by the direct negotiation between the sides.

6. This Memorandum may be modified by the mutual consent of the Sides.

7. This Memorandum will enter into effect on the date of its signature and remain in effect unless either Side notifies the other, in writing, of its intention to terminate this Memorandum.

8. This Memorandum is not intended to create any legal obligations under international law.

Signed in duplicate at Moscow, on March “ “ 2012, in the Russian and English languages.

**For the Department for Electoral
Cooperation and Observation.
Organization of American States**



Pablo Gutierrez

**For the Central Election
Commission
of the Russian Federation:**



Vladimir Churov

