

MONGOLIA

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 29 June 2016

OSCE/ODIHR NEEDS ASSESSMENT MISSION REPORT 5-8 April 2016



Warsaw 29 April 2016

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MONGOLIA PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 29 June 2016

OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report

I. INTRODUCTION

Following an invitation from the authorities of Mongolia to observe the 29 June 2016 parliamentary elections, and in accordance with its mandate, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) undertook a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) to Mongolia from 5 to 8 April. The NAM included Steven Martin, OSCE/ODIHR Senior Adviser on New Voting Technologies, and Ulvi Akhundlu, OSCE/ODIHR Election Adviser.

The purpose of the mission was to assess the pre-election environment and the preparations for the elections. Based on this assessment, the NAM should recommend whether to deploy an OSCE/ODIHR election-related activity for the forthcoming elections, and if so, what type of activity best meets the identified needs. Meetings were held with officials from state institutions as well as with representatives of political parties, media, civil society, and the international community. A list of meetings is annexed to this report.

The OSCE/ODIHR would like to thank the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the General Election Commission for their assistance and co-operation in organizing the visit. The OSCE/ODIHR is grateful to all of its interlocutors for taking the time to meet with the mission and to share their views.

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mongolia is a parliamentary republic with legislative powers vested in the 76-member unicameral State Great Khural (parliament) elected for a four-year term. Executive power is exercised by the government, led by the prime minister. The parliament confirms the appointment of the prime minister and the Cabinet of Ministers. The president serves as the head of state and holds certain limited powers.

Overall, the legal framework provides an adequate basis for conducting democratic elections. These parliamentary elections will be conducted under a new Election Law adopted in December 2015. The new Election Law combines multiple laws, including for presidential, parliamentary and lower-level elections. Some changes, including on electoral dispute resolution, partly address previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations.

The elections will be administered by four levels of election administration, headed by the General Election Commission (GEC). Commission members at all levels are appointed from among civil servants. While the majority of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed general confidence in the GEC, specific reservations were noted concerning election day operations, including on the use of electronic vote counting equipment and the capacity to concurrently manage parliamentary, provincial and city elections.

Citizens over the age of 18 years are eligible to vote, except for those declared legally incapacitated by a court decision or imprisoned. Voter registration is passive and based on the place of permanent

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residence according to the civil registry. Biometric identification cards have been in use since 2010, and authorities estimate that up to 98 per cent of the population possess the cards. Preliminary voter lists were published online from 1 March. Most stakeholders expressed support for biometric registration and general confidence in the accuracy of voter lists.

Eligible voters over 25 years of age can be nominated as candidates by a political party, a coalition of parties, or run independently. To contest the elections, parties and coalitions are required to have their election platforms pre-approved by the State Audit Office (SAO) and to include a minimum of 30 per cent of candidates of each gender on the lists.

Campaign finance is regulated by detailed legislation that contains provisions on permitted forms of contributions and sets expenditure limits for each type of election. New legislation tasks the SAO with oversight responsibilities, including auditing contestants' financial reports, as well as sanctioning authority. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors indicated that newly introduced regulations and their implementation could benefit from review.

The official campaign period runs for 18 days up to the day before election day and is extensively regulated. While parties generally noted their ability to campaign freely, some expressed concerns about the short campaign period, potential intimidation of candidates and pressure on voters, as well as possible misuse of administrative resources.

Mongolia has a diverse media landscape that allows for certain pluralism. Most OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors highlighted the media's political polarization as well as the lack of transparency and high concentration of media ownership. While comprehensive legislation on broadcasters is lacking, the Election Law contains a number of provisions governing media coverage during elections, including with regard to free-of-charge and equal coverage of parties and coalitions by the public service broadcaster. Compliance is regulated by the GEC and the Communications Regulatory Commission, which were noted by OSCE/ODIHR interlocutors as lacking sufficient regulatory oversight to function effectively.

Complaints and appeals can be filed by a broad range of electoral stakeholders, and will be reviewed by various bodies depending on the issue. The new Election Law shortened the timeframes for resolution of election-related complaints and clarified the jurisdiction of different types of complaints.

The Election Law provides for observation of the electoral process by international and citizen organizations and representatives of electoral contestants. Political parties and some citizen observation organizations that the OSCE/ODIHR NAM met with highlighted the need and expressed their intention to deploy observers throughout the country on election day.

The majority of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed a certain level of confidence in the electoral administration. However, particular concern was raised with the new legal framework and possible gaps and shortcomings, the conduct of the campaign, media coverage, and the use of technology for counting and tabulation. While some OSCE/ODIHR recommendations have been considered, a number remain unaddressed.

Overall, interlocutors that the OSCE/ODIHR NAM met with highlighted the benefit of OSCE/ODIHR election observation in contributing to building confidence in the electoral process. Many underscored the need to observe the upcoming elections with a countrywide presence both during the campaign and on election day.

Based on the findings of this report, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the deployment of an Election Observation Mission for the 29 June parliamentary elections. In addition to a core team of experts, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the secondment of 22 long-term observers from

experts, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the secondment of 22 long-term observers from OSCE participating States to follow the electoral process countrywide, and 300 short-term observers to follow election day proceedings. In line with OSCE/ODIHR's standard methodology, the EOM would include a media monitoring element.

III. FINDINGS

A. BACKGROUND AND POLITICAL CONTEXT

Mongolia is a parliamentary republic with legislative powers vested in the 76-member unicameral State Great Khural (parliament) elected for a four-year term. Executive power is exercised by the government, led by the prime minister. The parliament confirms the appointment of the prime minister and the Cabinet of Ministers. The president serves as the head of state and holds certain limited powers.

Following the 28 June 2012 parliamentary elections, the Democratic Party (DP) won 34 seats in the parliament and formed a ruling coalition with the Justice Coalition (11 seats) comprised of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the Mongolian National Democratic Party. The Mongolian People's Party (MPP), the largest opposition party, holds 26 seats. The Civil Will Green Party (CWGP) and independents have two and three seats, respectively. Following the collapse of the government in December 2014, a grand coalition government was formed in January 2015, which included the MPP. In July 2015, the DP announced its decision to terminate the DP-MPP partnership and six MPP ministers were forced to resign.

The OSCE/ODIHR previously deployed an Election Observation Mission for the 2013 presidential election, which concluded that "the election was characterized by a competitive campaign conducted in an environment that respected fundamental freedoms, although restrictive legal provisions prevented media from providing sufficient information to the voters." Among other issues, the OSCE/ODIHR EOM recommended the consolidation of electoral legislation, strengthening procedures related to electronic vote-counting, clarifying and streamlining regulations on complaints and appeals, and amending the legislation on campaign regulations to be less restrictive. ¹

B. LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Parliamentary elections are primarily regulated the 1992 Constitution (last amended in 2001) the 2015 Law of Mongolia on Election (Election Law) and the 2006 Law on the Central Election Body. The legal framework also includes the Political Parties Law, the Anti-Corruption Law, the laws governing the judicial system and the functioning of the national broadcaster, as well as supplementary regulations and decisions of the General Election Commission (GEC).

The new Election Law, adopted on 25 December 2015, combines multiple election-related laws, including for presidential, parliamentary and lower-level elections. Despite the consolidation of legislation, some OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted the instability of the legislation, which has been significantly revised before each of the last several parliamentary elections.

See previous OSCE/ODIHR election reports on Mongolia.

While the new law partially addresses some previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations, in particular related to the complaints and appeals process, a number of recommendations remain unaddressed, including those on safeguarding the impartiality of election administration by law and increasing the transparency of campaign finance and of media ownership. The OSCE/ODIHR NAM was informed by several political parties that some amendments to the electoral legislation ahead of the elections could still be considered, since a specific provision prohibiting amendments to the electoral legislation six months prior to elections was removed from the law.²

While most OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors stated that the drafting process of the new law, which lasted almost three years, was generally inclusive, some expressed dissatisfaction that certain proposals were not sufficiently considered. Several opposition parties did not support the adoption of the new law due to disagreements on specific issues, including on the use of new voting technologies during the counting and tabulation of results.

Parliamentary elections are held under a mixed electoral system. Of the 76 members, 48 are elected under a majoritarian system in 26 multi-member constituencies. The remaining 28 members are elected under a proportional system, in a single nationwide constituency through closed party lists. Voter turnout must be at least 50 per cent in a constituency for the result to be valid. Repeat elections are held within a week.³

Political parties and coalitions must surpass a threshold of five per cent of valid votes cast, and the law was additionally amended to require parties/coalitions to obtain at least one seat under the majoritarian component to qualify for proportional seat allocation. Some OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors opined that the introduction of this amendment would overly restrict the entry of newly established and smaller parties into parliament.

C. ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

The elections will be administered by four levels of election administration comprising the GEC, 22 Territorial Election Commissions (TECs) (one for each of the 21 provinces, *aimags*, and one for Ulaanbaatar), 339 District Election Commissions (DECs) in both capital city districts and rural districts (*soums*), and some 2,000 Precinct Election Commissions (PECs).⁴

The current GEC was appointed in 2012 for a six-year term, and consists of nine members, including one woman. The chairperson and secretary are appointed by parliament from among the GEC members and serve as full-time commissioners, the other seven members are part-time. TECs have up to nine members, appointed by the GEC, while DECs and PECs, appointed by the respective TEC, have up to nine and seven members respectively. Lower-level commissions are established for each election. Members of all election commissions are drawn from among civil servants with preference given to those with prior experience in organizing elections. All members are required to participate in mandatory training and certification and be non-partisan.

The GEC has published its electoral calendar and commenced preparations, including approving instructions and initiating a voter education campaign to promote the participation of women and youth. The GEC is undertaking various initiatives for voters with disabilities, including based on

² Section II.2.b of the <u>2002 Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters</u> of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) recommends that fundamental elements of electoral law should not be amended within the last 12 months before an election.

The number of votes cast during the repeat elections is added to that from the initial round of voting to obtain the final turnout.

In addition, some 45 PECs in diplomatic and consular representations abroad will be established.

suggestions from lower-level commissions and civil society. Polling stations are being made accessible for disabled voters, as required by law, and equipped with tools such as Braille ballot covers and magnifying lenses to assist visually impaired voters. Several OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors commended the GEC's efforts to improve the accessibility of polling stations, particularly in Ulaanbaatar. While most of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed general confidence in the work of the GEC, some reservations were noted concerning election day, including the capacity of the election administration to manage concurrent elections.

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As in previous elections, polling stations will be equipped with electronic vote counting equipment for scanning and counting the ballots, which immediately produces the election results. Due to a lack of confidence in the use of the machines on the part of many electoral stakeholders, amendments were introduced to require that following the end of the count, a manual recount is to be randomly held in half of polling stations. However, the law lacks detail on procedures for the selection of polling stations for recounts and the course of action required if automated and manual counts differ.

The GEC is expected to develop specific provisions to regulate the recounts. However, even with the introduction of such procedures, and the possibility to request scanned copies of ballots after the elections to verify the results, many OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors, including political parties, expressed doubt in the reliability and integrity of the electronic system. One civil society organization, in co-operation with GEC, is planning to hold a series of tests on the machines, although the extent of such testing has yet been determined.

D. VOTER REGISTRATION

Citizens aged 18 years on or before election day have the right to vote, except those declared legally incapacitated or deprived of the right by a court. Voter registration is passive and periodic. Voter lists are extracted from the National Civil Registration and Information Database, managed by the National Registration and Statistics Office (NRSO) that prepares the electronic voter register (EVR) for each election. The database identifies citizens based on personal and biometric data, which eliminates the possibility of multiple entries. Citizens are linked to specific addresses. Biometric identification cards have been in use since 2010 and authorities estimate that up to 98 per cent of the population (aged 16 years and above) is included into the database. On election day, voters will be required to present their identification cards and have their fingerprints scanned and checked against the biometric register.

The NRSO published the provisional EVR on its website, and, for these elections, it contains a total of 2,004,048 voters. Until 55 days before election day, respective government agencies are to notify the NRSO about ineligible voters, including those deemed legally incapacitated, imprisoned, or who left the country for more than 60 days. These voters will be marked as "temporarily removed" in the voter lists. Voters serving in the military or border posts outside their area of permanent registration will be removed from the voter list at their places of permanent residence and added to the list of their temporary location.

From 1 March, voters can verify their records online using their personal identification number and request to be added to the register or to correct their information. Voters can request to be transferred to a different polling station, and must notify the NRSO about their temporary address not later than 30 days prior to election day. DECs should receive voter lists from their respective

TEC, which should then be forwarded to PECs for public scrutiny from 20 until 14 days before the elections.⁵

Most stakeholders expressed support for the biometric registration as well as general confidence in the accuracy of voter lists. Some limited concerns were noted over the challenge of obtaining accurate data for voters using a temporary residence, such as nomadic groups and students.

E. CANDIDATE REGISTRATION

Eligible candidates must be at least 25 years old and possess voting rights. Grounds for ineligibility include legal incapacitation, incomplete military service, and a criminal record that has not expired or been cleared according to the law. Additionally, the Election Law provides that candidates cannot have overdue loans or income taxes (as determined by a court decision).

Candidates can be nominated by political parties or coalitions, or run independently. Parties and coalitions should submit registration documents to the GEC not later than 60 days before election day. The GEC has five days to register a party or coalition. Candidate nomination starts 55 days before election day and lasts five days for parties and coalitions and seven days for independent candidates. Independent candidates must collect at least 801 supporting signatures. The GEC should register candidates within seven days of receiving their nomination documents.

To contest the elections, parties and coalitions are required by law to have their election platforms pre-approved by the State Audit Office (SAO). The SAO will evaluate each platform for compliance with the national budget and various laws, which was criticized by a number of electoral stakeholders. The SAO informed OSCE/ODIHR NAM that it was still developing its audit methodology. To promote women's participation, candidate lists are required to include at least 30 per cent of candidates of each gender, which is an increase from 10 per cent in the last elections. There is no requirement for the order in which candidates appear on the list.

F. CAMPAIGN

The official campaign period will start on 10 June and end on 28 June, lasting 18 days (shortened from 21 days). The law extensively regulates campaigning, including the number and format of printed materials. Campaigning in public institutions is prohibited. The law prohibits the distribution of money and goods to voters, organization of mass entertainment events, and distribution of false information using print, broadcast or electronic media from the beginning of the election year until the close of polls.

While political parties generally noted their ability to campaign freely, some expressed concerns to the OSCE/ODIHR NAM about the short campaign period, potential intimidation of candidates and pressure on voters, as well as possible misuse of administrative resources. The campaign is expected to focus on issues related to the economy, social welfare and poverty reduction. Many OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expected the campaign to be intense, given the concurrent

Voters residing abroad will be able to request registration with the corresponding diplomatic mission between 40 and 20 days before the voting day(s). Voting abroad will take place from 16 to 18 June.

This number corresponds to a number of signatures required by political parties to be registered with the Supreme Court.

These include the Laws on Fiscal Stability, the Law on Development Policy Planning and the policy document "Mongolia Sustainable Development Vision 2030", adopted by parliament on 6 February 2016.

For example, campaign posters can only be displayed on vehicles registered with the election commissions and in public places designated by local municipalities by 1 April of the election year.

lower-level elections, and to focus on personalities rather than on party platforms. Parties intend to use billboards, banners, rallies, door-to-door gatherings, as well as advertisements in the media to reach out to voters. Parties noted the importance of social media and the challenge of campaigning in rural constituencies given the large size of the districts.

G. CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Campaign finance is regulated by the Election Law and the Law on State Audit and supplemented by decisions of the SAO. New provisions shifted the general responsibility for campaign finance oversight from the GEC to the SAO.

Limits on campaign expenditure are established ahead of each election by the SAO. For these elections, the maximum amount is set at MNT 3.4 billion (some EUR 1.5 million) per contestant along with spending limits for candidates in each of the 26 constituencies depending on population and size. Donations can be made only in the election year and are limited to MNT 3 million (some EUR 1,300) per individual and MNT 15 million (some EUR 6,500) per legal entity. Contestants are obliged to open dedicated bank accounts for all campaign expenses, to which their own funds and all donations are to be transferred. All donations should be made by bank transfer and in-kind donations should be appraised. Donations from foreigners, labour unions, religious groups, non-governmental organizations, state-owned legal or foreign entities are prohibited.

Political parties, coalitions and independent candidates are required to submit campaign income and expenditure reports to the GEC within 30 days after election day. Financial reporting prior to election day is not required, although financial activity during the campaign can be checked by authorities. The GEC forwards the reports to the SAO for review, which must be complete within 90 days. Sanctions for campaign finance violations depend on the severity of the violation, but a number of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted that the amounts of possible fines are relatively small. However, the law states that a party, coalition or candidate failing to submit its report in the required timeframe will not be registered in the next elections. The SAO noted that its findings along with contestant reports are made publicly available.

H. MEDIA

Mongolia has a diverse media landscape that allows for certain pluralism. However, most OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors highlighted the media's political polarization, and the lack of transparency and high concentration of media ownership. Apart from the Mongolian National Public Radio and Television (MNPRT) that includes two television and three radio stations, there are some 17 television and 31 radio stations broadcasting in Ulaanbaatar and over 70 television cable channels available throughout the country. Some OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted concern with the MNPRT over its financial and editorial independence, whereby a limited advertising market leads to a dependency on advertisement purchased by central and local government, especially outside of the capital.

The media legal framework comprises the 1998 Law on Freedom of Media and the 1995 Law on Telecommunications. Several OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors mentioned that existing legislation provided inadequate media regulation. In 2015, the government initiated draft laws on Media Freedom and on Broadcasting, although they were not passed. In partly addressing a previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendation, in 2015, criminal defamation provisions were repealed in favour of civil sanctions. However, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM was informed that the introduced fines for

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defamation are excessive and disproportionate.¹⁰ In addition, the Law on Freedom of Media holds media outlets libel for the content of political advertising and statements made directly by political actors, which can potentially discourage editorial offices from reporting on political issues and on campaign activities.

The Election Law provides regulation for media coverage of the official campaign, including on news coverage and free and paid airtime. Public and private broadcasters are required to ensure non-discriminatory conditions and to provide unbiased information in their programmes. The publication of political polls is prohibited from seven days before the elections.

As per the law, the MNPRT intends to provide free-of-charge equal coverage to all parties/coalitions (independent candidates are not entitled) and dedicated times will be allotted to broadcast candidate spots. The MNPRT is planning a series of candidate debates, possibly in cooperation with several private channels, which may include sign language and translation into Kazakh. Private broadcasters are required to air paid candidate advertisements under equal conditions and the total time dedicated to advertisements by each broadcaster cannot exceed one hour per day. Specific rules on the broadcasting and monitoring of the campaign are to be detailed in a joint regulation of the GEC and the Communications Regulatory Commission (CRC).

The CRC intends to conduct media monitoring of all national and regional broadcasters during the campaign to ensure compliance with media regulations. Several OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted that the CRC's oversight responsibilities should to be clarified and its sanctioning powers strengthened as it appears to be somewhat ineffective.

The legislation provides for the establishment of a part-time media council, comprised of representatives of professional media institutions, civil society, and electoral contestants, for the campaign period. A number of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors pointed out that this council lacked effectiveness in adjudicating media-related complaints during previous elections.

In 2014, Mongolia's first independent Media Council was established to self-regulate the media, and includes a number of broadcast and print media. It developed a Code of Ethics and can receive and respond to media-related complaints.

I. COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

The adjudication of electoral complaints is governed by the Election Law, the Civil Procedure Law, Criminal and Civil Codes, Administrative Law and the Law on Petitions. In following a previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendation, the new law seeks to establish a clear and simplified hierarchical system for dispute resolution and to shorten deadlines for complaints resolution.

Under the law, complaints and appeals can be filed by voters, political parties and candidates, their proxies, civil society organizations and observers, and will be reviewed by various bodies depending on the issue. Appeals against decisions of election commissions can be submitted to the superior election commission which must address them within three days, or submitted to the Administrative Courts. GEC decisions can be appealed to the Supreme Court expect for those related to the constitutionality of the GEC decisions on the validity of parliamentary elections results, which necessitates the Constitutional Court's review. The Constitutional Court can directly receive complaints with regard to the constitutionality or alleged violations of an individual's electoral rights.

Up to 1,000 minimal salaries for individuals and up to 10,000 minimal salaries for legal entities.

Complaints lodged with the court of first instance should be resolved within 30 days of submission (previously 60 days) with a possibility to prolong this period for a maximum of 10 days. Appeals at the Appellate Courts and the Supreme Court should be considered within 21 days (previously 30 days). Various OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed some degree of confidence in the electoral administration and public authorities to effectively handle election-related complaints, although additionally noted that the complaints and appeals process may benefit from further review.

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ELECTION OBSERVATION

The Election Law provides for citizen and international election observers, as well as for authorized representatives of electoral contestants. The law limits the number of citizen observers to one observer per organization per polling station and prohibits public servants from observing elections.

To be eligible to observe the elections, civil society organizations must be "committed to engaging citizens in managing state affairs" under their charters. Some OSCE/ODIHR NAM described this requirement as overly restrictive. Ahead of the elections, several citizen organizations provided input on various amendments to the Election Law, including on the gender quota and regulations on party and campaign finance. Other activities towards the elections will include voter education, media monitoring, and raising awareness on the use of ballot scanners. At least one organization is planning to deploy observers on election day. All political parties met with by the OSCE/ODIHR NAM highlighted the need and expressed their intention to deploy party representatives throughout the country on election day.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The majority of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed a certain level of confidence in the electoral administration. However, particular concern was raised with the new legal framework and possible gaps and shortcomings, the conduct of the campaign, media coverage, and the use of technology for counting and tabulation. While some OSCE/ODIHR recommendations have been considered, a number remain unaddressed.

Overall, interlocutors met with by the OSCE/ODIHR NAM highlighted the benefit of OSCE/ODIHR election observation in contributing to building confidence in the electoral process. Many underscored the need to observe the upcoming elections with a countrywide presence both during the campaign and on election day.

Based on the findings of this report, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the deployment of an Election Observation Mission for the 29 June parliamentary elections. In addition to a core team of experts, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the secondment of 22 long-term observers from OSCE participating States to follow the electoral process countrywide, and 300 short-term observers to follow election day proceedings. In line with OSCE/ODIHR's standard methodology, the EOM would include a media monitoring element.

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ANNEX: LIST OF MEETINGS

State and Electoral Authorities

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Bold Bat-Ochir, Director, Consular Department Mandkhai Basuren, Department of Multilateral Co-operation

General Election Commission

Sodnomtseren Choinzon, Chairman Boldsaikhan Tseden-Ish, General Secretary and Commissioner Bayanduuren Dugardorj, Head, Administration Office

State Great Hural (Parliament)

Bakey Agipar, Member of Parliament; Chairman, Standing Committee on State Structure Burmaa Radnaa, Member of Parliament Tuvshinjargal Erdene, Senior Adviser, Legal Service Department Turbold Bolor-Erdene, Officer, Legal Service Department

Ministry of Justice

Unenbat Biytsee, Director, Policy Implementation and Co-ordination Department Saruul Surenjav, Treaty, Law and Co-operation Department

Constitutional Court

Ganzorig Dondov, Member Bolortungalag Narangerel, Head, Legal Service Department

Supreme Court

Batsuuri Mishig, Presiding Justice, Chamber for Administrative Cases Naranpurev Janlav, Head of Administrative Offices

National Human Rights Commission

Jamsran Byambadorj, Chief Commissioner

State Registration Authority

Domkhuu Enhktsetseg, Head, Registration Department

Communications Regulatory Commission

Balgansuren Batsukh, Chairman and CEO

National Audit Office

Zangad Ayur, Auditor General Battuya Buyandelger, Deputy Auditor General Altanzul Baasanjav, Director, Compliance Audit Department

Political Parties (in alphabetical order)

Civil Will Green Party

Khuder-Yan Byambasuren, General Secretary

Democratic Party

Enkhbold Zandaakhuu, Chairman, Speaker of the Parliament Erkhembayar Lombo, Secretary General

Mongolian National Democratic Party (Justice Coalition)

Enkhsaikhan Mendsaikhan, Chairman Batsaikhan Lundaajantsan, Adviser

Mongolian People's Party

Munkhbat Jamiyan, Secretary General Nyamjav Yondonsharav, Head, International Relations and Co-operation Department

Media

Eagle TV

Jargalmaa Bardach, Director

Mongol TV

Lkhagva Erdene, Executive Producer

Mongolian National Public Radio and Television

Oyundari Tsagaan, General Director

Civil Society

Independent Authority Against Corruption in Mongolia

Tur-od Lkhagvajav

MIDAS - Mongolian Information Development Association

Enkhjargal Sukhbaatar, Chairman

Sant Maral Foundation

Sumati Luvsandendev, Director

Transparency International-Mongolia

Batbayar Ochirbat, Executive Director

Voter Education Centre

Oyuntuya Sumiya, Executive Director

International Community

International Republican Institute

Ashleigh Whelan, Country Director

United Nations Development Programme

Beate Trankmann, United Nations Resident Co-ordinator Amar Tsetsegmaa, United Nations Co-ordination Specialist