# THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

## REPUBLIC OF FIJI

59 - 63 High Street, Toorak, Suva P. O. Box 2528, Government Buildings, Suva. Phone: +679 331 0255 Website: www.electoralcommission.org.fj

Ref: Meeting Number 05/22 Decision Numbers 09/22

The Electoral Commission, having held a Face-to-Face meeting on 25 April 2022, has approved the following:

- 1. Procedure for Approval under Section 115 of the Electoral Act 2014.
- 2. Brochure for Approval for activity under Section 115 of the Electoral Act 2014.
- 3. Guidelines for Application under Section 115 of the Electoral Act 2014.
- 4. Application Form for Approval under Section 115 of the Electoral Act 2014.
- 5. Appeal Form on Application for Approval under Section 115 of the Electoral Act 2014.

Dated this 25th day of April 2022

MUKESH NAND

Chairperson of the Electoral Commission



# APPROVAL UNDER SECTION 115 OF THE ELECTORAL ACT 2014

Announcement of Election Day

#### **Receipt of Application**

Application Form is received from Applicant Attached to the Application Form are the relevant supporting documents.

#### Checking

FEO checks that the Application form has been completed and then issues an application number.

#### **Approval**

Upon verification, the Supervisor of Elections ['SoE'] notifies the Applicant in writing whether the application has been approved or requests the Applicant to amend the application to be in compliance with the Electoral laws and FEO policies and procedures.

#### Verification

FEO checks the Application Farm and relevant supporting documents if it is in compliance with the Electoral laws and FEO policies and procedures.

### **Amended Application**

Applicant re-submits amended application. This is verified again for compliance before it is submitted to SoE for approval. If amended application is not approved then applicant can appeal the SoE's decision to the Electoral Commission (TeC) under Section 155 of the Electoral Act 2014.

### **Appeals**

If the application has been rejected, the Applicant may appeal to the EC against the SoE's decision on the application within 24 hours of receipt of the decision. The Applicant is required to complete the Appeal on Application for Approval to the Electoral Commission under section 155 of the Electoral Act 2014 Form.

### **EC Ruling**

The EC makes the decision about the appeal within three (3) days of receipt of the appeal. This decision is relayed to the Appellant by 12:00pm following the day the decision was made. The EC's decision is final.

Contact us:

Phone: +679 331 6225 Email: info@feo.org.fj

Web: www.feo.org.fj | Facebook: @Fijianelectionsoffice

**HEADQUARTERS** 

59-63 High Street, Toorak, Suva. P. O. Box 2528,

Government Building, Suva,



# HOW TO APPEAL SoE's DECISION?

An Applicant who had applied for approval and whose application was not approved by the SoE can appeal to the EC by submitting the Appeal on Application for Approval to the Electoral Commission under section 155 of the Electoral Act 2014 Form with other documents relating to the decision of the SoE.

The EC may make a decision within 3 days of receipt of Appeal and the decision will be relayed to the Appellant by 12:00pm following the day the decision was made. The EC's decision is final.

Applications to the EC can be submitted by Email to: secretariat@electoralcommission. org.fj or hand delivered to: Fijian Elections Office, HQ 59-63 High Street, Toorak, Suva. P.O.Box 2528, Government Buildings, Suva.



Phone: +679 331 6225

Email: info@feo.org.fj | Web: www.feo.o

Facebook: @Fijianelectionsoffice

#### HEADQUARTERS

59-63 High Street, Toorak, Suva. P. O. Box 2528, Government Buildings, Suva.

#### LAUTOKA OFFICE

36 Vitogo Parade, Lautoka. P. O. Box 2528, Government Buildings, Suva.

#### LABASA OFFICE

Legal Aid Building, Jaduram Street, Labasa. P. O. Box 2528, Government Buildings, Suva.



Approval for activity under section 115 of the Electoral Act 2014

2022 General Election

# APPROVAL UNDER SECTION 115 OF THE ELECTORAL ACT 2014

Announcement of Election Day

#### **Receipt of Application**

Applicant. Att sched to the Applicant. Att sched to the Application form are the relevant supporting cocuments.

#### Checking

FEO checks that the Appl cation Form has been completed and then issues an application number.

#### Approval

Upon v. fic tion, the approximation of Elections [120E1] notifies the Applicant in writing w. the repercution to be approxed or requests the Applicant to amend the application to be a compliance with the Electoral a vs and FEO

#### Verification

FEO check; the Application Form and relevant supporting documents if it is in compliance with the Electoral laws and FEO policies and procedures.

#### **Amended Application**

Application of Lamits an ended application. This is verified again for application of approval, amended application is not approved if an applicant can appear if an applicant can appear if S. E. s. decision to the Elector of C. m. mission. "EC"] under Section 155 of the Elector of Act. 2014.

### **Appeals**

The application has been rejected, the Applicant may appeal to the EC against the SoE's decision on the application within 24 hours of receipt of the decision. The Applicant is required to complete the Appeal on Application for Approval to the Electoral Commission under section 155 of the Electoral Act 2014 Form.

#### **EC Ruling**

The EC makes the decision about the appeal within three (3) days of receipt of the appeal. This decision is relayed to the Appellant by 12:00pm following the day the decision was made. The EC's decision is final.

Pursuant to section 115 of the Electoral Act 2014, any person, entity or organisation that receives funding from a foreign government, inter-governmental or a non-governmental organisation or a multilateral agency to conduct any activity which is related to the General Election, must seek prior approval from the SoE.

Such activities includes debates, public forum meetings, interviews, panel discussions or publishing any material.

### **HOW TO APPLY?**

In order to seek approval from the SoE, a completed Application for Approval under section 115 of the Electoral Act 2014 ['Form'] together with the required documents must be submitted to the FEO no later than 14 days before the proposed commencement of the Activity.

# WHERE CAN THE FORM BE OBTAINED AND SUBMITTED?

This Form can be obtained and submitted by visiting our website https://www.feo.org.fj/application-under-section-115-of-the-electoral-act-2014/or contact 3316225.

# WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR APPLICATION?

The FEO will vet your application according to the existing Electoral Laws and FEO policies and procedures to ensure compliance. The FEO may require revision or amendment of particular portions before granting approval.

FEO's decisions will ideally be made known to the Applicant within 24 hours of the receipt of the application.

# THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

## REPUBLIC OF FIJI

59 - 63 High Street, Toorak, Suva. P. O. Box 2528, Government Buildings, Suva. Phone: +679 331 0255 Fax: +679 331 9513 Website: www.feo.org.fj

## Guidelines for Applications under s115 of the Electoral Act 2014

- 1. Pursuant to section 115 of the Electoral Act 2014, any person, entity or organization (including any person employed or engaged by any such person, entity or organization) ['Applicant'] that receives any funding or assistance from a foreign government, inter-governmental or non governmental organization or multilateral agency to engage in, participate in or conduct any campaign (including organizing debates, public forum, meetings, interviews, panel discussions or publishing any material) ['Activity']that is related to the election or any election issue or matter will be required to seek approval from the Supervisor of Elections prior to undertaking the Activity.
- 2. Applicants must submit a completed 'Application for Approval under s115 of the Electoral Act 2014 Form' to the Fijian Elections Office ['FEO'] no later than 14 days before the proposed commencement of the Activity.
- 3. Application forms must accompany any content/ material or prop and particulars of the Activity in sufficient quantity and form to allow the FEO to make the necessary compliance checks prior to granting approval.
- 4. The FEO may peruse materials submitted to it and inorder to facilitate approval, may require for revision or amendment of particular portions of the materials in the case of publications.
- 5. The FEO will give regard to the accuracy of the description of election procedures explained in the materials to be utilized in the Activity when considering approvals. Depending on the nature of the materials submitted to the FEO, decisions will ideally be made known to the Applicant within 24 hours of the receipt of the application.
- 6. Applications can be submitted by Email to <a href="mailto:csoinfo@feo.org.fj">csoinfo@feo.org.fj</a> or Hand delivered to: Fijian Elections Office, St Stephen's Building, Victoria Parade, Suva.



## APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL UNDER SECTION 115 OF THE ELECTORAL ACT 2014

## **Instructions** • Use a tick (✓) where appropriate. • Use **BLOCK LETTERS** to complete the form. · Use Black or Blue pen ONLY. · Approvals only required following announcement of Election date. PART A: DETAILS OF APPLICANT Name of Organisation: Source of Funding: Foreign Government Inter-Governmental Non-Governmental Organisation Multilateral Agency (Name of Source) Address of the Organisation: Name of Liaison Officer: Designation: Phone Contact of Liaison Officer: Email Address of Liaison Officer: PART B: ACTIVITY DETAILS The Applicant is organising the following activity: **Public Forum** Interview Meeting Debate Panel Discussion Publication of Materials Others \_ (Description) Please explain briefly details about your activity. (Use extra sheet if necessary. Attach it to this form.) NOTE: Supporting documents to be attached to this form. (Please refer to instructions) Name of Liaison Officer: Signed: Date: FOR OFFICIAL USE **Date of Application: Application Number: Supporting Documents Submitted:** Form Completed: **Decision Provided:**

### INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. How to Apply

To apply you need to submit the following to us:

- A completed form.
- Supporting document of proposed activity. Please refer to table below:

Detail of Activity	Supporting Documents		
Debate	Participants resume Topic to be debated Program		
Public Forum/Panel Discussion	Speakers resume Topic to be discussed Program		
Meeting	Participants resume Agenda		
Interview	Interviewer's resume Interviewee's resume Interview questions Date, Time and Venue of Interview		
Publication of Materials	Copy of the materials to be published Brief summary of publishing the materials		

### 2. When to submit

Once the Election Date is announced, you are required to apply to FEO when organising the activity that you have specified in this form.

The form is to be submitted no later than fourteen (14) days before the initial date of the activity that has been specified in this form.

#### 3. Where to submit

This form can be submitted to the following:

Email: csoinfo@feo.org.fi

Hand Delivered: St Stephen's Building, Victoria Parade, Suva.

For any further clarifications please do not hesitate to contact us on 3316225 or email to <a href="mailto:csoinfo@feo.org.fj">csoinfo@feo.org.fj</a>

# To the Electoral Commission 59-63 High Street

## **TOORAK**

### INSTRUCTION

- 1. Write in BLOCK LETTERS
- 2. Place a tick (✓) in a box when required
- 3. Form can be submitted by email to <a href="mailto:secretariat@electoralcommission.org.fi">secretariat@electoralcommission.org.fi</a> or hand delivered to HQ 59-63 High Street, Toorak, Suva. P.O. Box 2528, Government Buildings, Suva.

# Appeal on Application for Approval to the Electoral Commission under section 155 of the Electoral Act 2014

		Ac	ct 2014	
I/We appeal aga 2014 in not appr	inst the decisicoving my/our	on of the Superviso application dated_	or of Elections under	section 115(2) of the Electoral Act
1. Details of De				
	f our appeal w		owing information :	and or documents (if insufficient
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Name of Organ		Appellant's Det	ails	
Name of Organ	isation			
Address of Organ	isation	1		
Name of Liaison (	Officer:		_ Designation:	
Phone Contact: _		Email Addı	ress:	
For Official Use	Only:			
Date & Time Received by Commission		Appeal Decision		Date Candidate/SoE Advised