



Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

IN THE MATTER OF
SUSPENDING THE CONDUCT
OF THE SANGGUNIANG
KABATAAN SPECIAL
ELECTIONS AND ALL
PENDING PLEBISCITES IN
PREPARATION FOR THE
CONDUCT OF THE 12 MAY 2025
NATIONAL AND LOCAL
ELECTIONS AND
BANGSAMORO
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN
MUSLIM MINDANAO
(BARMM) PARLIAMENTARY
ELECTIONS, AND THE 01
DECEMBER 2025 BARANGAY
AND SANGGUNIANG
KABATAAN ELECTIONS

GARCIA, George Erwin M.
INTING, Socorro B.
CASQUEJO, Marlon S.
FEROLINO, Aimee P.
BULAY, Rey E.
MACEDA, JR. Ernesto Ferdinand P.
CELIS, Nelson J.

Chairman
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

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Promulgated: September 11, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Erwin M. Garcia".

RESOLUTION NO. 11054

WHEREAS, under Article IX (C), Section 2 (1) of the 1987 Constitution, the Commission shall enforce and administer all laws and regulations relative to the conduct of an election, plebiscite, initiative, referendum and recall;

WHEREAS, the Commission promulgated Resolution No. 11009 on 19 June 2024 entitled "*Rules and Regulations Governing the Conduct of Sangguniang Kabataan Special Elections*" laying the general guidelines in the conduct of Sangguniang Kabataan Special Election (SKSE);

WHEREAS, Section 3 of the same Resolution provides that the date of the SKSE shall be specified in the calendar of activities to be promulgated by the Commission *En Banc*;

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court, in the case of *Marc Douglas IV C. Cagas vs. Commission on Elections, represented by its Chairman, Atty. Sixto Brillantes, Jr., and the Provincial Election Officer of Davao del Sur, Represented by Atty. Ma. Febes Barlaan*¹, upheld the Commission's power to defer the conduct of all plebiscites so as to enable it to focus all its attention and concentrate all its manpower and other resources on its preparation for the conduct of an election;

WHEREAS, in the same case, the Supreme Court likewise upheld the Commission's power to hold a plebiscite simultaneously with an election;

WHEREAS, at present, the Office of the Deputy Executive Director for Operations already received several requests for the conduct of plebiscite from the following local government units:

1. Presentacion, Camarines Sur
2. Cauyan, Negros Occidental
3. Parañaque City, Metro Manila

WHEREAS, the forthcoming year 2025 is referred to as a “*Super Election Year*” since three elections are about to take place, namely: (i) National and Local Elections (NLE); (ii) BARMM Parliamentary Elections (BARMM PE); and (iii) Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections (BSKE);

WHEREAS, the Commission has already started its preparations for the conduct of the 12 May 2025 NLE and the first and BARMM PE;

WHEREAS, the schedule for the filing of the Certificates of Candidacy (COC), Certificates of Nomination and Certificates of Acceptance of Nomination (CON-CAN) of party-list groups and the preparation of the List of Candidates for all positions is from 01 October 2024 to 30 November 2024;

WHEREAS, part of the preparations for the 2025 NLE and BARMM PE are the following activities from 01 October 2024 to 20 April 2025:

- i. creation of digital ballots
- ii. configuration of ballot faces and machines

¹ G.R. No. 209185, 25 October 2013

- iii. conduct of tests for the Full Automation System with Transparency Audit/Count (FASTrAC) and Online Voting and Counting System (OVCS)

WHEREAS, the Commission is presently conducting the following activities: (i) procurement of goods, supplies and equipment; (ii) conduct of continuing local and overseas voter's registration; (iii) enrollment and collection of digital signature; (iv) systems customization for FASTrAC and OVCS; (v) delivery and acceptance testing of equipment and consumables; (vi) conduct of field transmission survey; (vii) testing of systems or application or laboratory test (including corrections and modifications by provider and Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing [VAPT] for OVCS); (viii) Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) systems certification for FASTrAC, OVCS, and Secure Election Transmission System (SETS); (ix) printing of accountable and non-accountable forms; and (x) delivery of machines and hardware acceptance test;

WHEREAS, the following activities are likewise scheduled to be conducted from 01 September 2024 until 30 October 2025 based on the implementation calendar prepared by the Project Management Office (PMO), to wit:

ACTIVITIES	START	END
Conduct of Local Source Code Review (Starting with Base Code)	01 October 2024	31 January 2025
Execution of SETS	01 September 2024	30 December 2024
Delivery of final systems for FASTrAC and OVCS	30 September 2024	
National Technical Support Center (NTSC) and Technical Hubs for Configuration	01 October 2024	30 June 2025
Random Manual Audit (RMA)-Preparatory Activities until actual RMA	01 October 024	30 June 2025
Recruitment and Conduct of Trainings for FASTrAC, OVCS and SETS	28 October 2024	12 April 2025
Conduct of Field Test (Automated Election	30 October 2024	

System [AES], OVCS and SETS)		
Conduct of public demonstrations of the Automated Counting Machines (ACMs), OVCS and SETS	15 November 2024	30 April 2025
Constitution of Electoral Boards (EBs), Board of Canvassers (BOCs), DepED Supervisor Officials (DESOs), and Support Staff	15 November 2024	20 December 2024
Installation of Final Trusted Build (FTB) version of the ACM System, Consolidation Canvassing System (CCS), OVCS, SETS Application	04 November 2024	09 November 2024
Conduct of Mock Election (AES, OVCS and SETS)	23 November 2024	
Finalization of the Project of Precincts (POP)	02 December 2024	
Preparation of Packing Lists for Election Forms and Supplies	09 December 2024	30 April 2025
Pre-Election Logic and Accuracy Test (PRE-LAT)	26 December 2024	30 April 2025
Election Period	12 January 2025	11 June 2025
Constitution of Special Ballot Reception and Custody Group (SBRCG), Special Board of Election Inspectors (SBEI), and Special Board of Canvassers (SBOC)	17 January 2025	31 January 2025
Pre-registration of Overseas Voters for OVCs	12 February 2025	12 May 2025

Deployment of Equipment, Forms and Paraphernalia for Overseas and Local	15 February 2025	05 May 2025
Final Testing and Sealing		
i. Overseas	06 April 2025	12 April 2025
ii. Local	02 May 2025	07 May 2025
Sealing and Lockdown of Servers in the Data Center	10 January 2025	05 May 2025
Voting Period for Overseas Voters	13 April 2025	12 May 2025
Election Day	12 May 2025	
Count Precinct Results	12 May 2025	13 May 2025
Canvass Precinct Results	13 May 2025	19 May 2025
Post-Election Activities	01 June 2025	30 October 2025

WHEREAS, the target date to resolve all Petitions to declare nuisance candidate is on the last week of November 2024;

WHEREAS, after the 2025 NLE and BARMM PE, the Commission shall immediately commence the preparations for the 2025 BSKE²;

WHEREAS, in order to concentrate all the resources of the Commission in the preparation of the 2025 NLE and BARMM PE, as well as the 2025 BSKE, there is a need to suspend the conduct of SKSE and plebiscites;

NOW THEREFORE, after due deliberation, so as not to derail the preparations for the 2025 NLE and BARMM PE as well as the 2025 BSKE, the Commission *En Banc*, by virtue of the powers vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, and other election laws, hereby **RESOLVE**, as it hereby **RESOLVES** as follows:

1. To **SUSPEND** the conduct of SKSE until further notice; and
2. To **SUSPEND** the conduct of all plebiscites effective 01 September 2024 and schedule the holding of said plebiscites within four (4) months from the end of the election period for the 01 December 2025 BSKE.

² Section 1, Republic Act No. 11462 amending Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9164

Let the Office of the Deputy Executive Director for Operations and the Education and Information Department implement this Resolution.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon publication. For this purpose, the Education and Information Department of the Commission shall cause the publication of this Resolution in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

SO ORDERED.

GEORGE ERWIN M. GARCIA
Chairman

SOCORRO B. INTING
Commissioner

MARLON S. CASQUEJO
Commissioner

AIMEE P. FEROLINO
Commissioner


REY E. BULAY
Commissioner

ERNESTO FERDINAND P. MACEDA, JR.
Commissioner

NELSON J. CELIS
Commissioner

CERTIFICATION

APPROVED for publication, September 11, 2024.


CONSUELO B. DIOLA
Director IV
Office of the Commission Secretary

This Resolution can be verified at this number (02)85272987; email address comsec@comelec.gov.ph.