

Results Management and Announcement Procedures

Southern Sudan Referendum
Commission
January 2011

Understanding the results

- Who can announce results?
 - Only the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission and its offices (Referendum centre, County, State, Country, Southern Sudan) can make official results announcements
- What are the results?
 - The results are for the level/geographical area of the office making the announcement and are NOT results for the entire Referendum
- Are the results final?
 - Results will only be final after the end of the period for appeals and as certified by the SSRC Board of Commissioners! Only the SSRC can declare the Preliminary & Final Referendum results.

Referendum centre – Counting & Announcement of Results



- ❑ Ballots are counted according to SSRC procedures immediately following the close of polls on the final day of polling
- ❑ Counting in presence of observers
- ❑ Results Form Completed
- ❑ One copy of Results Form displayed for public view and declared as “Results for the Referendum centre”
- ❑ Forms packed in Tamper-Evident Bags and sent to State Referendum Committee in Northern Sudan (to County Subcommittee in Southern Sudan and to Country Office in OCV)

Transportation of Materials

- Results forms and other sensitive materials will at all times be transported with police escort
- The Chairperson of the Referendum centre will remain with the material at all times until they are handed over to the relevant SSRC authority
- Observers are permitted to remain with materials until they are collected
- Observers are at all times allowed to travel with the materials, using their own transportation (not in SSRC vehicles)

County Sub-Committee (Southern Sudan only)

- ❑ Materials from Referendum centres received, checked and recorded
- ❑ Ballot boxes stored unopened with seals intact
- ❑ Referendum centre results are aggregated, displayed for public view and declared as “**Results for the County**”
- ❑ After materials from all Referendum centres are received, they are sent to the State High Committees, along with results for the county
- ❑ ***When?* Estimated 16-20 January**

State High Committee (Southern Sudan only)

- Materials received, checked and recorded
- County Sub-Committee results are aggregated, displayed for public view and declared as **“Results for the State”**
- Materials received from Counties are sent in batches to the Data centre in Juba, the last batch includes the state level results
- When?* Estimated 17-21 January**

Data centre Juba

- ❑ Verifies results from all Referendum centres through a double-blind data entry system with additional quality control checks
- ❑ Summary of results and turnout figures displayed progressively and posted on SSRC website
- ❑ After all Referendum centre results have been entered, verified and approved by the SSRB, SSRB declares **“Results for Southern Sudan.”**
- ❑ SSRB sends the results to the SSRC in Khartoum.
- ❑ ***When? Estimated January 31***

Northern Sudan

- ❑ Materials sent from Referendum centres to the State Referendum Committees
- ❑ State Referendum Committee receives, checks and records all materials; safely stores the ballot boxes
- ❑ Materials addressed to the Data centre are sent immediately to the Data centre in Khartoum
- ❑ Referendum centre results are aggregated, displayed for public view and declared as “**Results for the State Referendum Committee.**” [17 committees in North]
- ❑ ***When? Estimated 16-20 January***

Out of Country Voting

- ❑ Materials sent from Referendum centres to the Country Office
- ❑ Country Office receives, checks and records all materials
- ❑ Materials addressed to the Data centres are sent immediately to the Data centres in Khartoum and Juba
- ❑ Referendum centre results are aggregated, displayed for public view and declared as “**Results for the Country**”
- ❑ ***When? Estimated 17-21 January, 2011***

Data centre Khartoum

- ❑ Verifies results from all “other locations” through a double-blind data entry system with additional quality control checks
- ❑ Summary of results and turnout figures displayed progressively and posted on SSRC website
- ❑ After all Referendum centre results are entered, verified and approved by the SSRC for OCV and Northern Sudan, SSRC declares them as “**Results for Other Locations**”
- ❑ ***When?* Estimated 21-24 January, 2011**

SSRC

- ❑ Announces results from all Referendum centres (Northern Sudan & OCV) + Results for Southern Sudan = **“Preliminary results for the Southern Sudan Referendum.”**
- ❑ ***When?* Estimated 1 February**

Courts Appeals

- ❑ Voters have 3 days from the SSRC's Declaration of Preliminary Results for the Referendum to appeal the results of the Referendum centre where they voted to the Supreme Court of Sudan or the Supreme Court of Southern Sudan
- ❑ The Court has 7 days to hear the appeal, take a decision and inform the SSRC of its decision

SSRC

- ❑ Takes into consideration decisions from the Courts
- ❑ 48 hours after the close of the appeal period, SSRC announces the **“Final Referendum Results”**
- ❑ **When? “Estimated 6 February if no appeals; 14 February if appeals are lodged**

Timeline

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|---|--------------------|
| ❑ Calculation of total number of voter registrations and threshold | 08 January |
| ❑ Results for referendum centres declared at centres | 15 January |
| ❑ Results for counties declared at County Sub-Committee
Or Referendum Committees in the North | 16-20 January |
| ❑ Results for states declared at State High Committee Office | 17-21 January |
| ❑ Results for countries declared at Country Offices | 17-21 January |
| ❑ Results for Other Locations declared at SSRC Office | 21-24 January |
| ❑ Results for Southern Sudan declared at SSRB Office | 31 January |
| ❑ Preliminary Results for the Referendum declared by the SSRC | 1 February |
| ❑ Last Day for Submission of Appeals (Section 43(2) of the Act) | 4 February |
| ❑ Declaration of Final Referendum Results if no appeals | 6 February |
| ❑ Last day for disposal of appeals by the Courts (Sect 43(2) of the Act) | 11 February |
| ❑ Declaration of Final Referendum Results if appeals | 14 February |

Remember !

- Only the SSRC and its offices can make official announcements of results!
- Results are only for the geographical area/level of the office making the announcement (Referendum centre, County, State, Country, Southern Sudan)!
- Preliminary results will be announced by the SSRC only after results from all Referendum centres have been entered and verified through the data entry system!
- Results will only be final after the end of the period for appeals and as certified by the SSRC Board of Commissioners!

Questions and Comments?

Thank you!