

CHAPTER 4

THE VOTING SYSTEM

4.1 A poll would be held in a contested as well as an uncontested election, and different voting systems will be adopted, as appropriate [ss 23 and 24 of the CEEO]. Details of the two different systems are provided in Parts I and II of this chapter. *[Added in January 2007]*

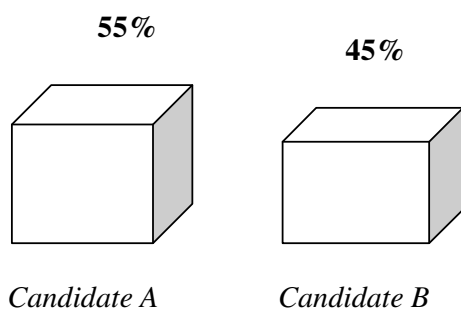
PART I : CONTESTED ELECTION

4.2 The voting system to be adopted if there are 2 or more validly nominated candidates contesting in an election is detailed below. *[Amended in January 2007]*

4.3 Each elector can cast one vote by marking the candidate of his choice with the chop with a “✓” provided. If a candidate obtains more than half of the total number (ie the absolute majority) of valid votes at the first round of voting of the election, he will be elected. Otherwise, all candidates will be eliminated except those who obtain the highest number of valid votes and, if there is only one candidate who obtains the highest number of valid votes, those who obtain the second highest number of valid votes. These candidates will proceed to the next round of voting. The process will continue until one candidate obtains an absolute majority of votes to win. The RO shall then publicly declare him as elected at the election, and publish the result of the election in the Gazette [s 24, 27 and 28 of the CEEO]. *[Amended in January 2007]*

4.4 Examples are given below to illustrate how the voting system operates:

Scenario 1 (where there are 2 candidates in the election or 2 candidates remain after the elimination of all other candidates)

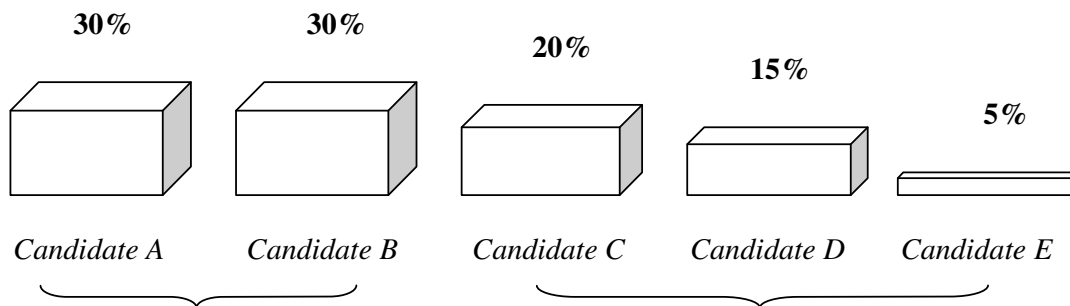


Elected

- Candidate A is elected as he has obtained more than half of the total number of valid votes cast.

Scenario 2 (where there are 3 or more candidates in the election)

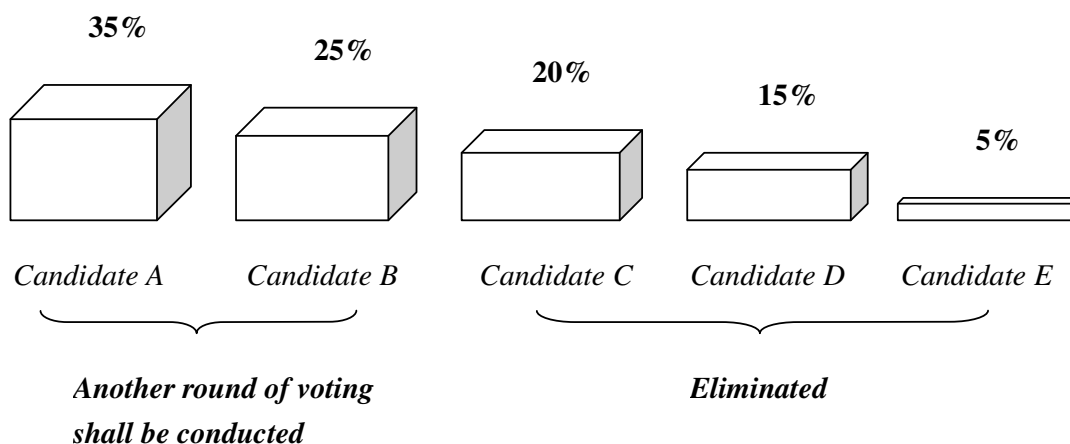
Scenario 2(a)



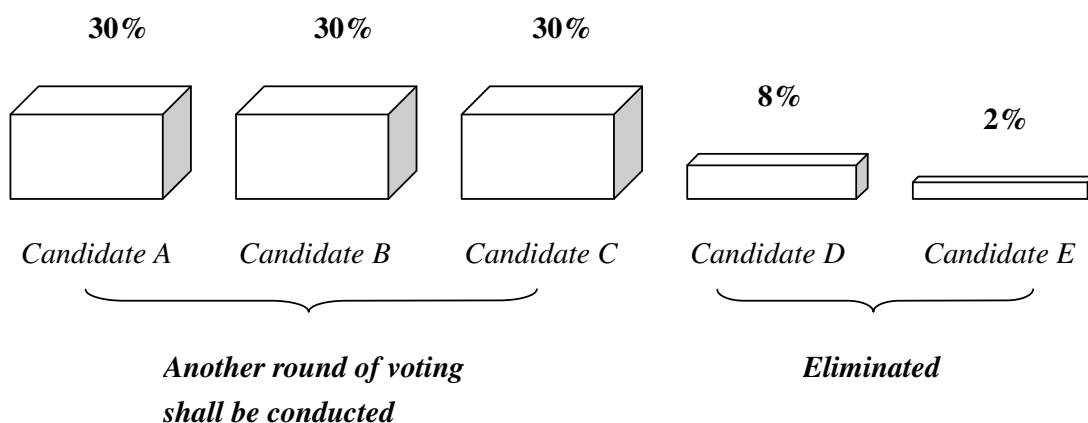
*Another round of voting
shall be conducted*

Eliminated

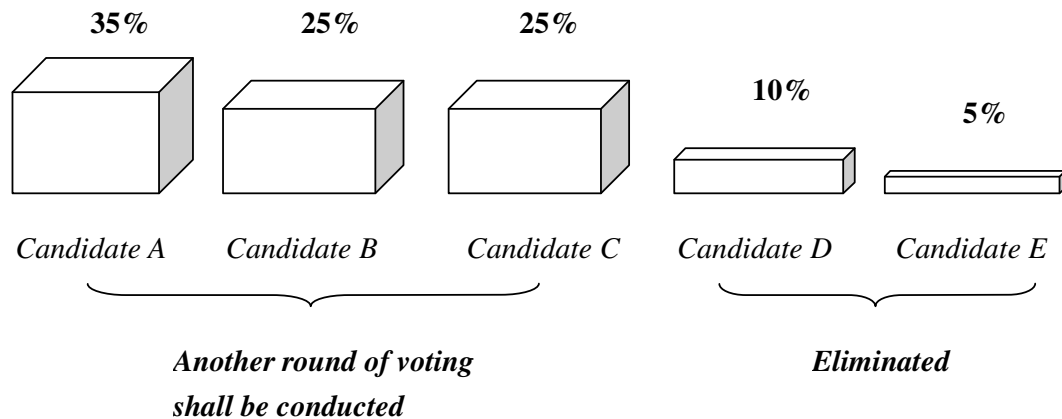
- Only 2 candidates (Candidates A and B) have obtained the highest and the same number of valid votes cast.
- As many rounds of voting as may be necessary shall be conducted until one of them (Candidate A or B) is returned (see scenario 1).

Scenario 2(b)

- Only 1 candidate (Candidate A) has obtained the highest number of valid votes cast but he does not obtain more than half of the total number of valid votes cast.
- Only 1 candidate (Candidate B) has obtained the next highest number of valid votes cast.
- As many rounds of voting as may be necessary shall be conducted until one of them (Candidate A or B) is returned (see scenario 1).

Scenario 2(c)

- 3 candidates (Candidates A, B and C) have obtained the highest and the same number of valid votes cast.
- As many rounds of voting as may be necessary shall be conducted until one of them (Candidate A, B or C) is returned (see scenarios 1, 2(a) and 2(b)).

Scenario 2(d)

- Only 1 candidate (Candidate A) has obtained the highest number of valid votes cast but he does not obtain more than half of the total number of valid votes cast.
- 2 candidates (Candidates B and C) have obtained the next highest and the same number of valid votes cast.
- As many rounds of voting as may be necessary shall be conducted until one of them (Candidate A, B or C) is returned (see scenarios 1, 2(a) and 2(b)).

PART II : UNCONTESTED ELECTION

4.5 The voting system to be adopted if there is only one validly nominated candidate in the election is detailed below. *[Added in January 2007]*

4.6 Each elector can cast either a “support” vote or a “not support” vote. The candidate shall be returned at the election if the number of “support” votes obtained by him exceeds half of the total number of valid votes cast in the poll. The RO shall then publicly declare him as elected at the election, and publish the result of the election in the Gazette [ss 23, 26A and 28 of the CEEO]. *[Added in January 2007]*

4.7 If the number of support votes obtained by the candidate does not exceed half of the total number of valid votes cast in the poll, the candidate shall not be returned at the election. The Returning Officer shall publicly declare that no candidate is returned at the election, publish the declaration in the Gazette, and terminate the proceedings for the election by a public declaration [ss 22(1AB) and 26A of the CEEO]. There will then be another round of nominations. If necessary, the electoral process will be repeated until a candidate is returned. *[Added in January 2007]*