

Guidelines for Mutual Aid Committees

1. Chapter 17 of the Electoral Affairs Commission's Guidelines on Election-related Activities in respect of the District Council Election provides that a candidate must obtain the prior written consent from a person or an organisation before using the name or logo of that person or organisation, or a pictorial representation of that person in any of his election advertisements or activities as an indication of support from that person or organisation.
2. In this respect, Mutual Aid Committees ("MACs") should comply with the following procedures:
 - (a) If the support is to be given to a candidate of a constituency in the name of the MAC, the written consent should be approved at a general meeting convened in accordance with the Model Rules for the MAC, and signed by the incumbent Chairman of the MAC.
 - (b) If the support to a candidate is to be given in the official capacity of an office-bearer of a MAC, that office-bearer should first obtain the approval of the MAC at a general meeting convened in accordance with the Model Rules for the MAC. Otherwise, that office-bearer should be careful not to give any impression or cause misunderstanding that the support in his official capacity represents the support of the MAC.
 - (c) If the support to a candidate is to be given in the personal capacity of an office-bearer of the MAC and his official title will not be mentioned in the election advertisements of the candidate, it will not be necessary for that office-bearer to seek approval from the MAC or its executive committee.
3. All general meetings of the MAC should be convened in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Model Rules for the MAC.
4. Decisions taken at the meetings of MACs must be properly recorded and the record must be prominently displayed in the block within 7 days after the meeting.