



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

EuropeAid Co-operation Office

Central management of Thematic budget lines PA RELEX

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NOTE TO THE MEMBERS STATES

CALL FOR CANDIDATES FOR LONG TERM AND SHORT TERM OBSERVERS FOR THE ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION (EOM) TO THE GENERAL ELECTIONS IN ECUADOR SCHEDULED FOR 26 APRIL 2009 (POSSIBILITY OF A SECOND ROUND 14/06/09)

Without prejudging the outcome of the discussions on a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ecuadorian authorities on the deployment of an EU EOM for the forthcoming General Elections in Ecuador, the Commission wishes to initiate the recruitment of long term and short term observers for the EU EOM to Ecuador for the General Elections scheduled to take place on 26 April 2009; a possible second round for the Presidential Election would take place on 14 June 2009 depending on the results of the first round.

The Commission wishes to begin the procedures for recruitment of:

- 40 LTOs (Long Term Observers). Indicative deployment dates:

§ General Elections: **1 April till 5 May 2009** – a total of 35 days travel included (in case of appeals 12 LTOs will stay longer: **6 May till 15 May 2009** – a total of 45 days travel included)

§ In case of a 2nd round for the Presidential Election: **31 May till 23 June 2009** – a total of 24 days travel included.

- 60 STOs (Short Term Observers). Indicative deployment dates:

§ General Elections: **19 April till 1 May 2009** – a total of 13 days travel included

§ In case of a 2nd round for the Presidential Election: **9 June till 17 June 2009** – a total of 9 days travel included.

Priority will be given to those LTOs and STOs that are available for both rounds.

In order to ensure the recruitment of the observers and to comply with the tentative dates of the deployment plan, the European Commission invites Member States to submit the following number of shortlisted candidates via the EU Election observer Roster at the latest by **27 February 2009**:

- 5 candidates for the position of Long Term Observer (LTO)

- 6 candidates for the position of Short Term Observers (STO).

Member States should ensure a fair balance regarding the gender and the background of shortlisted candidates.

Candidates Profiles

- (1) Language skills: excellent written and spoken Spanish and English (level 3 = fluent) is a **must**.
- (2) Previous working experience in Central America and in particular in Ecuador would be considered an asset.
- (3) Previous electoral observation experience and/or other relevant experience including electoral training would be considered an asset.

LTOs: minimum 1 observation mission as an LTO or as an STO;

STOs: previous experience in an election observation mission or relevant background and experience in the field of elections, civil and political rights.

- (4) Computer and IT: (Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Access, Acrobat Writer, Outlook) and internet browser and web mail software, Sat phone, HF, VHF, and other communication device.
- (5) Living conditions: observers should be willing to accept harsh living conditions when deployed in Ecuador.
- (6) Full flexibility is required from the candidates in terms of mission timetable in the event of changes that might occur.
- (7) Excellent physical conditions and good health which can afford hardship environment in rural areas with basic hygiene and accommodation. Quito is situated at around 3000m of altitude; observers should be aware that conditions at that altitude may cause headaches and a sensation of lack of oxygen.
- (8) The following vaccines are recommended before entering Ecuador: Yellow Fever, Adult Diphtheria, Tetanus, Hepatitis A and B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Polio, Typhoid and Tuberculosis. Malaria prophylaxis is recommended for all areas except the cities of Quito, Guayaquil, central highland areas and the Galapagos Islands. Dengue is widespread in the country and special precautions will have to be taken in the provinces of Sucumbíos, Zamora Chinchipe, Napo, Pastaza and Morona Santiago.
- (9) Candidates should consult their own government's health travel advisories.

Selection of successful candidates and information to be provided to shortlisted observers

- (1) The Commission will proceed to the final selection of observers on the basis of criteria established in the Council Decision “**EU Guides for the Selection of the electoral observers**” **Council Decision 8728/99 - PESC 165 - COHOM 4** and will inform the Member States of the final list of the selected observers.
- (2) The European Commission will use for the Mission the data already exist in the EU Election observer Roster: <https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/applications/eomsec/index.cfm?lang=en>

Candidatures sent by email will not be taken into account ;

- (3) The European Commission invites the Member States to propose only candidates certifying their full availability for the entire period of the mission ;

- (4) The European Commission requests Member States:
- § To require that shortlisted observers update their personal data in the ROSTER before the submission of their candidatures, and update beforehand any necessary vaccinations and treatments ;
 - § To rank in each category all shortlisted observers by order of suggested preference ;
 - § To inform shortlisted observers to follow respectfully and at any time during their assignment as observers, the EU code of conduct for election observers, as well as the European Commission and EU EOM Core Team instructions, in particular security and safety instructions. Failure to follow those instructions may result in an anticipated termination of the observer's assignment, immediate repatriation to the place of residence and non-recommendation for future EU EOMs ;
 - § To inform observers of the security instructions as published on the Web sites of the Ministries and Embassies.

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