



**BANGSAMORO COMMISSION
FOR THE PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE**
Don Teodoro V. Juliano Avenue, Rosary Heights XII, Cotabato City
COMMISSION PROPER



**RESOLUTION NO. 031
Series of 2025**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE AMENDED GENERAL GUIDELINES ON
THE 2025 REGIONAL CONVENTION OF SULTANS AND INTRA-SULTANATE
ASSEMBLY OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS' SECTORAL ORGANIZATIONS (SOs)
AND SECTORAL WINGS OF REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY POLITICAL
PARTIES (RPPPs) IN THE BARMM FOR THE ELECTION OF THE TRADITIONAL
LEADER SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVE IN THE BANGSAMORO PARLIAMENT,
INCORPORATING THE SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS OF THE COMMISSION
ON ELECTIONS (COMELEC)**

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage (BCPCH), in the exercise of its mandate, adopted Resolution No. 001, Series of 2025, providing the General Guidelines on the 2025 Regional Convention of Sultans and the Intra-Sultanate Assembly of Traditional Leaders' Sectoral Organizations (SOs) and Sectoral Wings of Regional Parliamentary Political Parties (RPPPs) in the BARMM for the election of the Traditional Leader Sectoral Representative in the Bangsamoro Parliament;

WHEREAS, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) En Banc issued Resolution No. 11162, entitled "Supplemental Resolution to Resolution No. 011 by the Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage entitled 'A Resolution Adopting the General Guidelines on the 2025 Regional Convention of Sultans and Intra-Sultanate Assembly of Traditional Leaders' Sectoral Organizations (SOs) and Sectoral Wings of Regional Parliamentary Political Parties (RPPPs) in the BARMM for the Election of the Traditional Leader Sectoral Representative in the Bangsamoro Parliament'";

WHEREAS, COMELEC Resolution No. 11162 introduced supplemental provisions designed to strengthen and align the Guidelines with the Bangsamoro Electoral Code and its Implementing Rules and Regulations;

WHEREAS, the BCPCH, in order to harmonize its own guidelines with the supplemental provisions of the COMELEC, finds it necessary and proper to adopt the amended General Guidelines incorporating the said provisions;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it **RESOLVED**, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, by the Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage, En Banc, to adopt and approve the Amended General Guidelines on the 2025 Regional Convention of Sultans and the Intra-Sultanate Assembly of Traditional Leaders' Sectoral Organizations (SOs) and Sectoral Wings of Regional Parliamentary Political Parties (RPPPs) in the BARMM for the Election of the Traditional Leader Sectoral Representative in the Bangsamoro Parliament, incorporating the supplemental provisions of the COMELEC.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of the Amended General Guidelines, incorporating COMELEC Resolution No. 11162, be attached hereto as Annex "A" and made an integral part of this Resolution.



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RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies of this Resolution, together with its annex, be furnished to the Commission on Elections, Bangsamoro Electoral Office, Office of the Chief Minister and Bangsamoro Attorney General’s Office and all concerned offices for their information, guidance, and implementation

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 5 day of Rabi ul Awal 1447 AH / 28 day of August 2025 in Cotabato City, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

SALEM Y. LINGASA, Ph.D.
Chairperson/ Commissioner for Maguindanao

ROBERT M. ALONTO
Commissioner for Lanao del Sur

ELMASIA L. MADJILON
Commissioner for Tawi-Tawi

NURKADRI J. HAMSALI
Commissioner for Sulu

NAIDA M. AKKALAN
Commissioner for Basilan

ROSANNE M. IMPERIAL
Ex-Officio Commissioner for Indigenous People



Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao

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JOEL R. CADELIÑA

Ex-Officio Commissioner for Settler Communities

Certified By:

AKMAD D. MAMA

Secretariat of the Commission



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**GENERAL GUIDELINES ON THE 2025 REGIONAL CONVENTION OF
SULTANS AND INTRA-SULTANATE ASSEMBLY OF TRADITIONAL
LEADERS’ SECTORAL ORGANIZATIONS (SOs) AND SECTORAL
WINGS OF REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY POLITICAL PARTIES
(RPPPs) IN THE BARMM FOR THE ELECTION OF THE
TRADITIONAL LEADER SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVE IN THE
BANGSAMORO PARLIAMENT**

ARTICLE I. LEGAL BASES

1. Section 1, Article X of the Bangsamoro Autonomy Act (BAA) No. 35 or the Bangsamoro Electoral Code (BEC) provides that “[i]n the first Parliamentary election, the selection of the sectoral representatives for the reserved seats in the Parliament shall be on the basis of election during assemblies especially called for the purpose by registered and accredited sectoral organizations of women, settlers, youth, ‘Ulama, traditional leaders and NMIP (Non-Moro Indigenous Peoples).”
2. Section 1, Article IX of Resolution No. 10984 of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) or the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of BAA No. 35, provides: “For the sectoral representatives of NMIP, Traditional Leaders and ‘Ulama, the assemblies shall be called by registered and accredited sectoral organizations through their respective ministries, regional agencies, or offices and shall be conducted in the manner provided in this IRR (Comelec Resolution No. 10984). For the sectoral representatives of women, youth, and settler communities, the assemblies shall be called by registered and accredited sectoral organizations through their respective ministries, regional agencies, or offices which shall also facilitate the conduct thereof.”
3. Section 31 of Article IV of BAA No. 35 upholds the principle of equal opportunity for Traditional Leaders from the various Sultanates of BARMM to serve as sectoral representatives in the Bangsamoro Parliament on a rotational basis. This will be facilitated through a regional convention of Sultans representing the Sultanates of: (a) Sulu, (b) Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan, (c) Ranao, and (d) Iranun, where the order of rotation for each Sultanate/Royal House will be determined. Following this, an Intra-Sultanate Assembly shall be convened within the designated Sultanate to select the traditional leader who will occupy the Parliament seat.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

This Guidelines is issued for the following purposes:



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1. In compliance with the mandate of the Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage (BCPCH) to call for a Regional Convention of Sultans and Intra-Sultanate Assembly for the registered and accredited Sectoral Organizations and Sectoral Wings of registered and accredited Regional Parliamentary Political Parties (RPPPs) for Traditional Leaders;
2. To establish a clear and structured mechanism for determining the order of rotation among the Royal Houses/Sultanates through the Regional Convention of Sultans and to facilitate the selection of the sectoral representative to the Bangsamoro Parliament through the Intra-Sultanate Assembly;
3. Ensure a fair and equitable rotational system among the recognized Royal Houses/Sultanates in assuming representation of the Traditional Leaders Sector in the Bangsamoro Parliament. Institutionalize the process of convening the Regional Convention of Sultans for the purpose of determining the order of rotation;
4. Prescribe the procedural framework for the conduct of the Intra-Sultanate Assembly, which shall be responsible for selecting the representative of the Sultanate/Royal House currently designated under the established rotation;
5. To ensure a transparent, organized, and democratic process for conducting the Intra-Sultanate Assembly to elect the Traditional Leader Sectoral Representative to the Parliament;
6. To delineate the procedures for the election of the Sectoral Representative for Traditional Leaders in the Bangsamoro Parliament, ensuring that these procedures align with the principles established in Bangsamoro Autonomy Act No. 35 and Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Resolution No. 10984. By adhering to this Guideline, we aim to promote effective representation and participation of the Traditional Leaders in the Bangsamoro Parliament;

ARTICLE III. SCOPE

This Guidelines shall apply to the selection of the delegates and nominees to the Regional Convention of Sultans and the Intra-Sultanate Assembly of the SOs and Sectoral Wings of RPPP for Traditional Leaders and the manner of election of the Sectoral Representative for Traditional Leaders in the Bangsamoro Parliament for the 2025 Parliamentary elections in the BARMM.

Only those Sectoral Organizations (SOs) and Regional Parliamentary Political Parties (RPPPs), through their Sectoral Wings, that are duly certified by the Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage (BCPCH) on or before July 1, 2024, and accredited by the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), shall be allowed to participate in the Regional Convention of Sultans and the Intra-Sultanate Assembly.



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ARTICLE IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. **Intra-Sultanate Assembly** refers to the 2025 assembly of registered and accredited Traditional Leaders Organizations (TLOs) and Sectoral Wing of RPPPs, based on their established rotational order, for the Traditional Leaders Sector for the purpose of electing the Sectoral Representative for Traditional Leaders in the Bangsamoro Parliament as provided in Section 1, Article X of BAA No. 35.
2. **Convention Day Delegates List** refers to the official list of Traditional Leader Sectoral Organizations with the corresponding names of their official delegates who have registered and submitted their credentials in the morning of the scheduled Convention.
3. **Assembly Day Delegates List** refers to the official list of Sectoral Organizations with the corresponding names of their official delegates who have registered and submitted their credentials in the morning of the scheduled Assembly.
4. **Certificate of Canvass** refers to the official document, duly signed by the members of the Electoral Committee, showing the date and venue of the election and the Order of Rotation among the Royal Houses/Sultanates as agreed upon during the Regional Convention of Sultans
5. **Assembly Election Returns** refers to the official document, duly signed by the members of the Electoral Committee, showing the date and venue of the election and the votes, in words and in figures, obtained for each nominee.
6. **Convention Delegate** refers to the official representative of a duly certified and accredited SO or a Sectoral Wing, who is duly authorized to attend the Regional Convention of Sultans and cast his/ her vote for and in behalf of the SO or a Sectoral Wing to determine the order of rotation among the Royal Houses/Sultanates through the Regional Convention of Sultans.
7. **Assembly Delegate** refers to the official representative of a duly certified and accredited SO or a Sectoral Wing, who is duly authorized to attend the Assembly and cast his/ her vote for and in behalf of the SO or a Sectoral Wing to determine sectoral representative of the Traditional Leaders to the Bangsamoro Parliament through the Intra-Sultanate Assembly;
8. **Nominee** refers to person duly nominated by duly certified and accredited Sectoral Organization/Sectoral Wing as a candidate for Sectoral Representative for Traditional Leaders and whose name appears in the duly published list of nominees by the BCPCH. A nominee is automatically the delegate of his/her nominating SO or Sectoral Wing.



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9. **Manifestation of Intent to Participate in the Parliamentary Sectoral Representation System (MIP-PSRS)** refers to the form prescribed by the COMELEC for Parliamentary Sectoral Organizations and Regional Parliamentary Political Parties by way of their Sectoral Wing intending to participate in the Parliamentary Elections.
10. **Mushawarah** refers to the consultative and deliberative process employed during the Regional Convention of Sultans to facilitate dialogue and consensus-building among the delegates in determining the order of rotation of the four (4) Sultanates/Royal Houses—namely, (1) Sulu, (2) Maguindanao, Buayan, Kabuntalan, (3) Ranao, and (4) Iranun—for representation in the Bangsamoro Parliament.
11. **Regional Convention of Sultans** refers to the official assembly of Traditional Leaders, represented by their respective **Traditional Leaders Organizations (TLOs)**, convened and facilitated by the **Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage (BCPCH)**. The primary purpose of this convention is to determine which among the four (4) recognized Royal Houses/Sultanates, namely:
- Sultanate of Sulu**
 - Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan**
 - Royal House of Ranao**
 - Royal House of Iranun**
- shall represent the Traditional Leaders Sector in the Bangsamoro Parliament.
12. **Run-off election** refers to the secondary election process conducted to determine which among the Sultanates or Royal Houses shall represent the Traditional Leaders Sector in the Bangsamoro Parliament, and in determining the order of rotation of the Sultanates in the Regional Convention of Sultans, when the initial voting by secret ballot results in a tie or an inconclusive decision.
- For purposes of this, a n inconclusive decision shall mean any of the following:
- Tie Vote - When two (2) or more Sultanates or Royal Houses obtain an equal number of votes;
 - Ballot Irregularities - When the number of spoiled, invalid, or protested ballots materially affects the outcome, making it impossible to declare the results with certainty;
 - Deadlock i n Canvassing o f Ballots - When the Electoral Committee cannot reach a decision on the validity of certain ballots or tallies;
 - Any other circumstance not herein enumerated which, in the determination of the Electoral Committee, materially affects the integrity, validity, or certainty of the election results.
- Only the Sultanates or Royal Houses directly affected by the tie or inconclusive decision shall participate in the run-off election, which shall be conducted by the Electoral Committee in accordance with these guidelines; (n)



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13. **Quorum.** A quorum to conduct business during the Convention/Assembly shall be determined by a simple majority (50% + 1) of all SOs and RPPP sectoral wings that are duly certified by the BCPCH and accredited by COMELEC and are present during the Convention/Assembly.
14. **Traditional Leaders** refer to the Royal Sultanates in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao which include the Sultanates of 1) Sulu, 2) Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, Buayan, the Royal Houses of 3) Ranao and the 4) Iranun;
15. **Traditional Leaders Organization (TLO)** refers to a sectoral organization certified by the BCPCH and accredited by the COMELEC that are composed of members belonging to Traditional Leaders and organized for the purpose of participating in the conduct of election of the Traditional Leaders' sectoral representative in the Bangsamoro Parliament and in advancing the role of Traditional Leaders in leadership and governance, conflict resolution, religious and spiritual guidance, social welfare, and community development in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES AND THEIR ROLES

1. Electoral Committee.

The Electoral Committee shall be composed of the Chairperson, Poll Clerk, and a third member who will be appointed by the Chairperson of the BCPCH from its existing personnel.

The Poll Clerk shall be responsible in maintaining and keeping the Minutes of the Convention/Assembly and shall record all incidents that occur during the Convention/Assembly.

No person shall serve as Member of the Electoral Committee if he/she is related within the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity to any nominee, committee member, or head of the BCPCH.

The Electoral Committee may designate additional members from the personnel of the BCPCH to provide technical and secretariat support.



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2. The Electoral Committee shall perform the following duties and functions:

- a. Conduct and administer the Convention/ Assembly voting by secret ballot.
- b. Maintain order in the voting area and ensure the holding of a free, fair, honest, peaceful and credible elections during the Convention/ Assembly.
- c. Conduct the manual counting of votes and prepare the Convention/ Assembly Election Returns.
- d. The Electoral Committee shall act through its Chairperson and shall decide, by simple majority, any question, protest or opposition which may arise in the course of the voting process and the counting of votes.

3. Rules Committee.

The Rules Committee shall be created to oversee the development, implementation, and review of the procedures and guidelines governing the conduct of the Regional Convention and the Intra-Sultanate Assembly. The BCPCH Chairperson shall appoint the chairperson and five (5) members of the Committee from its existing personnel who shall act as a collegial body.

The Chairman of the Rules Committee may designate additional members from the personnel of the BCPCH to provide technical and secretariat support.

4. The Rules Committee shall perform the following duties and functions:

- a. Ensure that the Guidelines are properly implemented and resolve gaps and challenges arising in the course of the conduct of the sectoral Convention/ Assembly.
- b. Verify the credentials of nominee and ensure they meet qualification criteria.
- c. Validate and approve the Convention/ Assembly Day Delegates List (ADDL) submitted by the Secretariat.
- d. Address and interpret procedural rules and resolve disputes, except election-specific procedural matters, which are directly handled by the electoral committee.

5. Secretariat.

The Secretariat shall handle the registration of the delegates and shall be under the supervision of the Rules Committee. It shall be composed of twelve (12) members who shall be appointed by the Rules Committee.

The Rules Committee may appoint additional members of the Secretariat as it deems necessary to provide technical and logistical support.



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REGIONAL CONVENTION OF SULTANS

ARTICLE VI. PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

1. **Call for the 2025 Regional Convention of Sultans.**

Within the calendar of activities prescribed by COMELEC, the BCPCH shall issue a Notice of Convention indicating the specific date, time, venue, agenda, and other relevant details of the Convention. The Notice must be issued at least thirty (30) days from the actual date of Convention. The Notice shall be sent via text message to the registered contact number and email address of all the duly registered and accredited SOs and Sectoral Wings. It shall likewise be posted on the official websites of the BCPCH, Bangsamoro Government, and Bangsamoro Parliament.

2. **Designation of Delegates and Nominees.**

A qualified TLO or RPPP Sectoral Wing is entitled to **one (1) delegate to participate and vote** during the Convention.

The TLO or TLSW must be duly registered and accredited by the COMELEC in accordance with applicable rules. Accordingly, the submission of certified copies of the proof of registration, Manifestation of Intent to Participate in the Parliamentary Sectoral Representation System, and proof of publication shall be required to establish such qualification. Provided that, the MIP-PSRS and proof of publication are certified copy in compliance with Sections 5(d), 6, and 15, Rule II, Article VI of the BEC IRR. Provided, further, that the Clerk of the Commission shall publish a list of the PSOs who submitted their MIP-PSRS and complied with the order to publish the same, which shall be deemed compliance of the PSOs. No additional or conflicting requirements may be imposed. (n)

3. **Qualifications of a Delegate.**

A delegate shall secure from the BCPCH a Certification of Membership attesting to their membership in the Traditional Leaders Sector. Such Certification of Membership shall be included among the documentary requirements to be submitted by the delegate to the Regional Convention of Sultans. (n)

No SO or Sectoral Wing member shall qualify as a delegate to the Convention unless he/she meets the following qualifications:

- a. A registered voter in the BARMM;
- b. A bona fide member of the Traditional Leaders sector; and
- c. A member in good standing as certified by the SO or Sectoral Wing of a RPPP;



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ARTICLE VII. REGISTRATION AND ENTRY PROCEDURES

1. Registration.

Registration shall be conducted in two parts to accommodate the Pre-Convention for the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan in the morning and the Regional Convention proper for all four (4) Sultanates/Royal Houses in the afternoon.

a. First Registration (Morning Session - Pre-Convention)

Registration for the Pre-Convention of the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan shall begin at 6:00 AM and shall close at 8:00 AM.

Delegates of these Sultanates must complete their registration within this period to participate in the Mushawarah and internal selection process of their cluster.

b. Second Registration (Afternoon Session - Regional Convention Proper)

Registration for the Regional Convention Proper for all four (4) Sultanates/Royal Houses (Sulu, Maguindanao-Kabuntalan-Buayan, Ranao, and Iranun) shall begin at 11:00 AM and shall close at 1:00PM.

Only delegates and their designated accompanying members who have duly registered during this period shall be allowed entry into the Convention venue and participate in the proceedings.

c. Registration Requirements

A delegate shall be required to present the following:

- 1) A valid government-issued ID;
- 2) The original copy of the SO or Sectoral Wing Resolution designating him/her as a delegate to the Convention;
- 3) The original copy of the Certificate of Registration and Accreditation issued by COMELEC; and
- 4) The original copy of the Traditional Leader Organization Certificate issued by the BCPCH, dated on or before July 1, 2024 (COMELEC's deadline for certification of traditional leaders' organizations).

Any person who fails to submit the aforementioned documents shall not be registered as a delegate and will not be allowed to enter the Convention venue or participate in the voting.



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d. Late Registration

- 1) For the Pre-Convention (Morning Session - Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan):

No delegate shall be allowed to register after 8:00 AM, unless he/she is within 100 meters of the registration area at the time of closing.

In such cases, the Poll Clerk shall record the names of those within the 100-meter radius in the official Minutes of the Convention before closing the registration.

- 2) For the Regional Convention Proper (Afternoon Session - All Sultanates/Royal Houses):

No delegate shall be allowed to register after 1:00 PM, unless he/she is within 100 meters of the registration area at the time of closing.

Similarly, the Poll Clerk shall record the names of those within the 100-meter radius in the official Minutes of the Convention before closing the registration.

2. Secretariat.

The Secretariat, under the supervision of the Rules Committee, shall be responsible for administering the registration of delegates and preparing the Convention Day List of Delegates, identifying those entitled to participate and vote during the Convention.

3. Convention Hours.

The Pre-Convention for the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan shall take place in the morning session following the registration period.

The Regional Convention Proper for all four (4) Sultanates/Royal Houses shall officially begin at 1:00 PM and shall conclude at 5:30 PM, or until the counting of votes and announcement of election results is completed.

ARTICLE VIII. HOUSE RULES DURING THE CONVENTION

1. **Attendance.** Only registered Delegates are allowed to attend and participate in the Convention. However, the following non-delegates shall be permitted entry:
 - a. Committee Members and BCPCH personnel
 - b. COMELEC-BEO Representatives
 - c. COMELEC Accredited Media



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- d. COMELEC Accredited Citizen's Arms. – Representatives from accredited citizen's arms, such as civil society organizations, are permitted to attend the Convention to observe the proceedings and the conduct of a clean, free, and honest election.
- e. Legal Counsel - A duly authorized lawyer of a nominee may attend the Convention and represent the nominee in the event of any legal dispute arising from the conduct of the Convention, the qualifications of a nominee, or the validity of the Convention Election Return. Any lawyer who will appear during the Convention must submit to the Rules Committee, at least three (3) days prior to the scheduled Convention, the following:
 - a. (IBP) identification card; a copy of his/her current Integrated Bar of the Philippines. (n)
 - b. a duly notarized Special Power of Attorney (SPA) or other competent written proof of authority expressly authorizing the lawyer to represent the nominee in the Convention. Failure to submit the foregoing credentials within the prescribed period, or submission of incomplete, defective, or otherwise invalid documents, shall be a ground for the Rules Committee to deny the appearance of such counsel and to disallow any participation or representation on behalf of the concerned nominee during the Convention. (n)
2. **Respect and Decorum.** All delegates, nominees and observers must maintain respect and decorum, avoid personal attacks and disruptive behavior and refrain from using scandalous, inflammatory, foul, abusive, and derogatory language.
3. **Speaking Order.** Any Delegate who wishes to speak must raise his/her hand to be recognized by the Chairperson. Speeches should be brief and concise and relevant to the agenda.
4. **No Campaign Paraphernalia.** Campaign paraphernalia are not allowed within the Convention venue.
5. **Prohibition Against Political Activity.** No member of any committee is allowed, directly or indirectly, to campaign for or against a delegate, Royal House or Sultanate.
6. **Media Coverage.** Media accredited by the COMELEC may cover the proceedings non-intrusively and within designated areas allowed by the Rules Committee. They are not allowed in the voting area.
7. **Security.** The BCPCH shall coordinate with the Ministry of Interior and Local Government (MILG) for the proper coordination with the Philippine National Police in securing the premises of the Convention venue. Firearms shall not be allowed inside the Convention venue.



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8. **Confidentiality.** Non-delegates, media, and citizen's arms must comply with the Data Privacy Act of 2012.
9. **Prohibition on Proxy Voting.** Proxy voting is strictly prohibited in both the Regional Convention of Sultans and the Intra-Sultanate Assembly. Under this provision, "proxy voting" refers to the act of a delegate or nominee authorizing another delegate, nominee, or any other individual to vote or represent them in their absence. This restriction is enforced to guarantee that all votes accurately reflect the direct participation and genuine intent of the delegates present during the assembly and convention.
10. **Venue.** The Convention shall be held at the Shariff Kabunsuan Cultural Complex (SKCC), Bangsamoro Government Center, Cotabato City.
11. **Special Assistance.** Delegates requiring special assistance, such as persons with disabilities, pregnant women and senior citizens, are entitled to be prioritized in the order of registration and voting.
12. **Convention Assistance Desk (CAD).** A Convention Assistance Desk (CAD) shall be available in strategic areas of the venue to guide and assist Delegates and provide proper orientation on the procedure and manner of voting during the Convention.
13. **Medical Team.** A medical team shall be present outside the Convention venue for the provision of emergency medical care and first aid when needed.

ARTICLE IX. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

To avoid conflict of interest, any official or employee of the BCPCH who has accepted a nomination to be a Traditional Leaders' sectoral representative shall recuse himself/herself from participating in any of the Convention proceedings or preparations pertaining thereto.

ARTICLE X. THE CONVENTION CHAIRPERSON

1. **Convention Chairperson.** - The Convention Chairperson shall be the head of office of the BCPCH. He/she shall call the Convention to order, preside over the proceedings and ensure the peaceful and orderly conduct of the Convention.
2. **Powers and Duties of the Convention Chairperson.** -
 - a. **Act as Presiding Officer of the Convention.** - The Convention Chairperson is responsible for conducting and expediting the business of the Convention, ensuring adherence to these guidelines, and maintaining order and decorum.



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- b. **Call the Roll and Declare the Quorum.** – A roll call of delegates will be conducted at the beginning of the Convention to establish a quorum to conduct business. The Convention Chairperson shall certify the presence of a quorum. If a quorum is not achieved, he/she shall declare the absence of a quorum, adjourn the proceedings, and schedule a new date for the Convention.
 - c. **Referral to the Rules Committee.** – For complex or contentious procedural matters, the Convention Chairperson may refer the issue to the Rules Committee for review and recommendations. The Rules Committee is responsible for providing guidance on the application of the Convention's rules and procedures.
 - d. **Disciplinary Power.** – The Convention Chairperson shall have the authority to summarily remove or deny entry of non-delegates who violate any of the house rules as set forth under this Guidelines.
3. **Disqualifications.** – No person shall serve as Convention Chairperson if he/she is related within the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity to any nominee.

ARTICLE XI. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business in the Convention shall be as follows:

I. Pre-Convention for the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan

1. **Preliminaries** – Opening prayers, followed by the singing of the Philippine National Anthem and the BARMM Hymn.
2. **Roll Call** – The Convention Chairperson shall instruct the Secretariat to call the roll. Upon confirmation of a quorum, the Chairperson shall officially call the Pre-Convention to order.
3. **Message of the Convention Chairperson** – The Chairperson shall deliver an address, acknowledge the presence of delegates, and emphasize the significance of the Pre-Convention in the electoral process.
4. **Orientation** – The Chairperson shall provide an overview of the Pre-Convention, outlining its objectives and the process of selection through Mushawarah.
5. **Mushawarah (Consensus-Building) for Internal Selection** – Delegates from the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan shall engage in a Mushawarah to determine the representative for each Sultanate and establish the order of internal rotation for their cluster.



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6. **Alternative Selection Process (if no consensus is reached)** – If, after one (1) hour of Mushawarah, no consensus has been reached, or the Chairperson determines that an agreement is unattainable, the selection shall proceed through draw lots, ensuring transparency. Each delegate shall witness their name being placed in a container before the Chairperson draws the name of the representative for each Sultanate.
7. **Internal Rotation Mechanism** – The selected representatives of the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan shall deliberate, discuss, and attempt to reach a consensus on the order of rotation among their cluster. If no consensus is reached within one (1) hour, the order of rotation shall be determined by voting by secret ballot.
8. **Formal Recording of Selection Results** – The final order of internal rotation and the duly selected representative of the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan shall be formally recorded and certified by the Convention Secretariat.

II. Regional Convention Proper for All Sultanates/Royal Houses

1. **Preliminaries** – Opening prayers, followed by the singing of the Philippine National Anthem and the BARMM Hymn.
2. **Roll Call** – The Convention Chairperson shall instruct the Secretariat to call the roll. Upon confirmation of a quorum, the Chairperson shall officially call the Convention to order.
3. **Message of the Convention Chairperson** – The Chairperson shall deliver an address, acknowledge the presence of delegates, and highlight the importance of the Convention in determining the Traditional Leader Sectoral Representative.
4. **Orientation** – The Chairperson shall provide an overview of the Convention, explaining the voting procedures, the role of each Sultanate/Royal House, and the selection mechanisms.
5. **Selection of Representatives from the Sultanates/Royal Houses -**
 - The delegates of each of the following Sultanates/Royal Houses shall independently conduct Mushawarah to determine their respective representative:
 - a. Sultanate of Sulu
 - b. Royal House of Ranao
 - c. Royal House of Iranun
 - In the case of the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan, their duly selected representative from the Pre-Convention shall be the one determined in their internal rotation mechanism.



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- If no consensus is reached during the Mushawarah within one (1) hour, or if the Chairperson determines that an agreement is unattainable, the selection shall proceed through draw lots to ensure transparency and fairness.
 - The result of the selection of representatives, whether determined through Mushawarah or Draw Lots, shall be formally recorded.
6. **Presentation of Sultanates/Royal Houses** – The duly selected delegate from each Sultanate/Royal House shall be called on stage to share his/her platform and proposed policies/programs during the Convention. Each speech shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes per delegate, in the following order:
- a. Sultanate of Sulu
 - b. Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan (represented by their selected delegate)
 - c. Royal House of Ranao
 - d. Royal House of Iranun
7. **Mushawarah (Consensus-Building) on the Order of Rotation** – The representatives of the Sultanates and Royal Houses shall engage in a Mushawarah to deliberate and attempt to reach a consensus on the order of rotation for representation in the Bangsamoro Parliament.
8. **Alternative Selection Process (if no consensus is reached)** –
- a. If, after one (1) hour, no agreement is reached or the Chairperson determines that a consensus is unattainable, the Convention shall proceed with: a. Voting by Secret Ballot – Delegates shall cast their votes to determine the order of rotation.
 - b. Run-Off Election (if necessary) – If the secret ballot results in a tie or yields unclear results, a run-off election shall be conducted among the Sultanates/Royal Houses with tied votes.
9. **Formal Recording and Certification of Rotation Order** – The final order of rotation, whether determined through Mushawarah or Voting by Secret Ballot, shall be formally recorded in the Certificate of Canvass by the Electoral Committee.
10. **Formal Closing and Adjournment** – The Convention Chairperson shall deliver closing remarks and officially adjourn the Convention upon the completion of all proceedings.

ARTICLE XII. CONVENTION FORMS AND SUPPLIES

The BCPCH shall provide the Rules Committee and the Electoral Committee with the ballot boxes, tally sheets, secrecy folder and other supplies necessary for the efficient conduct of the Convention and voting.



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The Rules Committee shall cause the printing of the official ballots that will be used in the Convention.

Distribution of Convention Forms and Supplies. – The Rules Committee shall release the official ballots to the Electoral Committee at nine o'clock in the morning and two o'clock in the afternoon of the Convention Day.

The BCPCH shall distribute the other election paraphernalia such as the ballot secrecy folder, ballot box, tally sheet, Certificate of Canvass, and supplies to the Electoral Committee.

The Electoral Committee shall thoroughly check the ballots, forms, documents, and supplies. Any issue or discrepancy as to the number of official ballots, shall be reported immediately to the Rules Committee and such incident shall be recorded in the Minutes of the Convention by the Poll Clerk.

ARTICLE XIII. DOCUMENTATION OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION

The Minutes of the Convention shall be duly recorded by the Poll Clerk and signed by the Convention Chairperson and Electoral Committee Chairperson. The BCPCH shall provide the necessary technical support for the preparation of the Minutes. Copies of the signed Minutes must be distributed to all sectoral organizations within thirty (30) days following the Convention either physically or electronically.

ARTICLE XIV. CONDUCT OF THE MUSHAWARAH.

i. The determination of the order of rotation of the sectoral organizations representing the Sultanates of a) Sulu, b) Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan, c) Royal House of Ranao, and d) Royal House of the Iranun, shall be done through *Mushawarah*.

ii. Only the **duly selected representatives** of each Sultanate and Royal House, as determined through the process outlined in the **Order of Business**, shall be given the opportunity to present their platform of government. Each selected Traditional Leader-Delegate shall be given a maximum of **fifteen (15) minutes** to present their platform and proposed policies in the following order:

- a) *Sultanate of Sulu;*
- b) *Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan;*
- c) *Royal House of Ranao; and*
- d) *Royal House of the Iranun*

iii. After the presentation of all Traditional Leader-Delegates, the BCPCH Chairperson shall formally announce the commencement of the *Mushawarah* to allow all



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representatives of the Sultanates and Royal Houses to deliberate, discuss, and attempt to reach a consensus on the order of rotation.

iv. **Failure to Reach Consensus**

a) It shall be presumed that **no consensus** is reached during the *Mushawarah* if:

- i. **One (1) hour** has passed from the commencement of deliberation and no agreement has been reached; or
- ii. The **Chairperson** determines that an agreement as to the order of rotation is unattainable through *Mushawarah*.

b) If a consensus **cannot be reached**, the selection process shall proceed as follows:

- i. **Voting by Secret Ballot** – The representatives shall cast their votes to determine the order of rotation.
- ii. **Run-Off Election** (*if necessary*) – If the secret ballot results in a **tie or unclear results**, a run-off election shall be conducted wherein only the tied Sultanates and Royal Houses shall participate.

v. The final order of rotation, whether determined through *Mushawarah* or **Voting by Secret Ballot**, shall be formally recorded in the **Certificate of Canvass**.

vi. **Preparation for Voting (If No Consensus is Reached)**

a) If, after **one (1) hour** from the commencement of the *Mushawarah*, no agreement is reached, or if the Chairperson determines that the order of rotation **cannot be settled** through deliberation, the Chairperson shall:

- i. Formally declare the failure to reach a consensus through *Mushawarah*.
- ii. Instruct the Electoral Committee to proceed with preparations for voting by secret ballot, which shall include:
 - ✓ Verifying the list of eligible Delegates
 - ✓ Distributing official ballots
 - ✓ Explaining the voting procedure
 - ✓ Ensuring the proper set up of the voting area

ARTICLE XV. VOTING BY SECRET BALLOT

1. **Preliminaries to Voting.** – The Electoral Committee shall meet at the Voting Area inside the Convention venue and perform the following preliminary activities:

A. In the morning of the Convention Day (Pre-Convention for Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan):

- i. Receive and check the official ballots, ballot box, secrecy folder and other election supplies.
- ii. Strategically arrange the chairs and tables to be used inside the voting area.
- iii. Set up the segregated waiting areas for men and women.



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- B. Prior to the commencement of voting by secret ballot, the Electoral Committee shall:**
- i. Receive the Convention Day Delegates List, containing the names of Sectoral Organizations and their designated delegates who are allowed to vote, arranged in alphabetical order.
 - ii. Show to the public the package of official ballots and record in the Minutes the number of pads, ensuring transparency before distributing them.
- C. In the afternoon of the Convention Day (Regional Convention Proper for All Sultanates/Royal Houses):**
- i. Reconfirm the voting materials and ensure all required election paraphernalia are in place.
 - ii. Receive the updated Convention Day Delegates List containing the names of the final representatives of each Sultanate/Royal House, as determined through the Pre-Convention and *Mushawarah* process.
 - iii. Ensure that voting will proceed smoothly if no consensus is reached during the *Mushawarah*.
- 2. Who May Vote** – Only delegates from the Traditional Leader Organizations and Sectoral Wings who meet all the qualifications set forth in the preceding Articles of this Guideline shall be entitled to vote in the Convention.
- 3. Rules to be Observed During the Voting. –**
- a. No member of any citizen's arm shall be allowed to enter the places reserved for the voters and the Electoral Committee, nor mingle and talk with the delegates;
 - b. No person carrying any firearm or other deadly weapon shall be allowed within the voting area.
 - c. No crowding of delegates and disorderly behavior inside the voting area.
 - d. The ballot box shall remain locked until the voting is finished and the counting begins. Except when it becomes necessary to make room for more ballots, the Chairperson, may, in the presence of citizen's arm and Rules Committee, open the box, press down the ballots without removing any of them. After which, the Chairperson shall again close the ballot box and lock it with the padlock. Such facts shall be recorded in the Minutes.
- 4. Prohibition on Voting. –** It shall be unlawful for anyone to:
- a. Bring the ballot and/or the ballot secrecy folder outside the voting area;
 - b. Speak with anyone while inside the voting area as herein provided;



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- c. Fill-up the ballot without using a ballot secrecy folder or exhibit its contents to any person, except in cases of assisted voting. Only members of the Electoral Committee are allowed to assist Delegates;
 - d. Erase any printing from the ballot or place any distinguishing mark thereon;
 - e. Use carbon paper, paraffin paper, or other means of making a copy of the contents of the ballot, or otherwise make use of any other scheme to identify the vote, including the use of digital cameras, cellular phones, or similar gadgets;
 - f. Intentionally tear or deface the ballot; and
 - g. Disrupt or attempt to disrupt the proceedings of the Electoral Committee.
5. **Persons Allowed Inside the Voting Area.** – Only the following shall be allowed inside the voting area:
 - a. Electoral Committee members;
 - b. Citizen's arm who shall stay only in the space reserved for them;
 - c. Delegates casting their votes;
 - d. Delegates waiting for their turn to vote; and
 - e. Others who are specifically authorized by the Electoral Committee whose presence must be specifically recorded in the Minutes.
6. **Persons Not Allowed to Enter the Convention Venue.** – Unless specifically authorized by the BCPCH, it is unlawful for the following to enter the Convention venue, or stay within a radius fifty (50) meters, except to vote:
 - a. Any officer or member of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) or the Philippine National Police (PNP);
 - b. Any peace officer or armed person belonging to any extra-legal police agency, special forces, reaction forces, strike forces, Civilian Armed Force Geographical Units (CAFGUs), barangay tanods, BPAT, or other similar forces or para-military forces including security guards and special policemen; and
 - c. All other kinds of armed or unarmed extra-legal police forces;

However, if it deems necessary, the Chairperson may, by a majority vote, order in writing the detail of policemen or peace officers for its protection or for the protection of the election documents and paraphernalia. In which case, the said policemen or peace officers shall stay outside the polling place within a radius of thirty (30) meters near enough to be easily called by the Convention Chairperson at any time, but never at the door, and in no case shall the said policemen or peace officer hold any conversation with any voter and disturb, prevent, or in any manner obstruct the free access of the voters to the polling place. Such order shall be recorded in the Minutes.

7. **Authentication of the Ballot.** – In every case, the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall, in the presence of the delegate and before giving the ballot to the delegate, authenticate the same by affixing his/her signature at the back thereof.



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8. **Order of Voting.** — The Delegates will vote according to their SO's name arranged in alphabetical order by the Secretariat.

The delegate shall fall in line in the order when the name of the SO is called and cast his/her vote in the same order. The voting area shall be limited to ten (10) Delegates at a time. Delegates shall not crowd around the voting area and shall immediately leave after casting their votes.

The Electoral Committee shall give priority to PWDs, Senior Citizens, and heavily pregnant Delegates in the casting of votes.

9. **Manner of Obtaining Ballots and Voting.** —

- The Delegate shall approach the Electoral Committee and provide the name of his/her SO as well as his/her complete name.
- The Electoral Committee shall verify if the SO is listed in the Convention Day Delegates List (CDDL). If verified, the delegate shall sign the CDDL and be issued one (1) official ballot. Only the Chairperson shall issue the ballot.
- Each delegate shall cast their vote for only **one (1) Sultanate or Royal House** from the names appearing on the ballot. The delegate must use a secrecy folder while casting their vote.
- After voting, the delegate shall fold the ballot cross-wise, place it inside the ballot box, and immediately exit the voting area to allow other delegates to vote.

10. **Accomplishment of Ballots for Illiterate, Persons with Disabilities, or Senior Citizens (SCs).** — In case a delegate is an illiterate, a PWD, or a senior citizen, they may be assisted in the voting by any member of the Electoral Committee. The fact of illiteracy or disability shall be indicated in the Minutes of the Convention.

11. **Close of Voting Process.** — The voting shall be closed after all Delegates present shall have casted their votes. The specific time when the voting is closed will be recorded in the Minutes.

ARTICLE XVI. VOTING BY DRAW LOTS

- Applicability** – If no consensus is reached during the *Mushawarah* on the selection of a representative of a Sultanate or Royal House, as provided in Article XI (Order of Business), the selection shall proceed through Draw Lots to ensure fairness and transparency.
- Procedure for Draw Lots**
 - The names of the eligible delegates shall be written on identical pieces of paper.



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- b. Each delegate shall witness their name is being placed into a container to ensure transparency.
 - c. The Convention Chairperson shall randomly draw one (1) name from the container.
 - d. The delegate whose name is drawn shall be declared the representative of their Sultanate or Royal House.
 - e. The result of the Draw Lots shall be formally recorded in the Minutes and included in the Certificate of Canvass.
3. **Finality of the Draw Lots Result** – The decision rendered through Draw Lots shall be final and binding, and no further objections or appeals shall be entertained.
4. **Draw Lots in the Morning Session (Pre-Convention for Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan)**
 - a. If no consensus is reached during *Mushawarah* on the selection of the representative of the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan, the Draw Lots process shall be conducted immediately to determine their duly selected representative for the afternoon Regional Convention.
 - b. The Electoral Committee shall facilitate the Draw Lots process in accordance with the procedure outlined above.
5. **Draw Lots in the Afternoon Session (Regional Convention Proper for All Sultanates/Royal Houses)**
 - a. If, after the *Mushawarah* in the afternoon Regional Convention, no agreement is reached on the selection of a representative for the Sultanate of Sulu, Royal House of Ranao, or Royal House of Iranun, the Electoral Committee shall immediately proceed with the Draw Lots process to determine their representative.
 - b. This ensures that all Sultanates and Royal Houses have equal chances of being selected in a fair and transparent manner.

ARTICLE XVII. COUNTING OF VOTES

1. **Manner of Counting of Votes.** – Counting of votes is done by the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee in a public and uninterrupted manner until completed, following these procedures:
 - a. The Electoral Committee shall open the ballot box, take out the ballots, and without unfolding them or exposing their contents except so far as to ascertain that each ballot is single, compare the number of ballots in the ballot box with the number of voters who voted as recorded in the Minutes.
 - b. The Chairperson shall take the ballots of the first pile and read the ballots one by one; while the Poll Clerk and a third member of the Electoral Committee shall record on the printed tally sheet.
 - c. Each vote shall be recorded by a vertical line (*tara system*), except every fifth vote, which shall be recorded by a diagonal line crossing the previous four vertical lines.



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After all the ballots for the Convention have been counted, the Electoral Committee shall:

- a. Prepare the Certificate of Canvass based on the final result of the tally sheet;
- b. Sign and affix their thumb marks on the certification portion printed at the bottom of the tally sheet; and
- c. Place the counted ballots in the special envelope provided for the purpose, the electoral committee shall close the envelope with a paper seal, and sign and deposit the same in the compartment for valid ballots. The accomplished tally sheet, certified by the Electoral Committee, shall also be deposited in the compartment for valid ballots.
- d. Should the result of the secret ballot voting result in a tie or yield unclear results, the convention shall proceed with a run-off election wherein only the Sultanates and Royal Houses tied in votes shall participate.

2. Run-Off Election in Case of a Tie – If the secret ballot voting results in a tie or yields unclear results, the Convention shall immediately proceed with a run-off election wherein only the tied Sultanates and Royal Houses shall participate.

3. Certificate of Canvass and Distribution of Copies Thereof. –

- a. The Electoral Committee shall prepare the Certificate of Canvass after the counting of votes. The returns shall be prepared in five (5) copies, signed by all members of the Electoral Committee, with their thumb marks affixed.
- b. A photocopy of the Certificate of Canvass shall also be given to any Sectoral Organization or Sectoral Wing that has fielded a nominee.

4. Announcement of Results

- a. Upon completion of returns, the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall officially announce the results of the voting by reading the total number of votes obtained by each Sultanate/Royal House.
- b. The Sultanate or Royal House that receives the majority vote shall be designated as the Sultanate/Royal House from which the Traditional Leader Sectoral Representative shall be chosen.
- c. The selection of the Traditional Leader Sectoral Representative shall be conducted in the Intra-Sultanate Assembly, composed exclusively of the Traditional Leader Organizations belonging to the winning Sultanate of Royal House.

5. Rotational Representation of the Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan

The Sultanates of Maguindanao, Kabuntalan, and Buayan shall follow an internal order of representation, or internal rotation, as determined during the Pre-Convention. This internal rotation shall be observed whenever it



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is the turn of the cluster to represent in the Bangsamoro Parliament under the overall rotational representation of the Sultanates and Royal Houses. The Sultanate selected to represent the cluster in 2025 shall be ineligible for selection in the next election within their cluster, and the representation shall pass to the next Sultanate in the predetermined internal order. (n)

The cluster shall be considered as one slot in the overall rotation together with the Sultanate of Sulu, Royal Houses of Ranao, and Iranun, and its opportunity to select a representative shall only arise when the cluster's turn in the overall rotation is reached. This mechanism ensures that each Sultanate within the cluster is given the opportunity to serve, while maintaining fairness in the broader rotational scheme. (n)

Under the overall rotation, the Sultanate of Sulu, Royal House of Ranao, Royal House of Iranun, and the Sultanates of Maguindanao-Kabuntalan-Buayan cluster take turns every election cycle. The cluster's turn recurs only once every twelve (12) years, and within that turn, only one of the three Sultanates inside the cluster will serve based on their predetermined internal order. Consequently, each Sultanate in the cluster will have the opportunity to serve approximately once every thirty- six (36) years. (n)

6. Disposition of Ballot Boxes, Keys, Returns, and Other Documents. – Upon completion of the counting of votes and announcement of results in the Convention, the Electoral Committee shall:

- a. Place the pertinent documents, tally sheet, stubs used as official ballots, and minutes of the convention inside the compartment of the ballot box for valid ballots.
- b. Close the interior covers of the ballot box and seal it with a plastic security seal.
- c. Deliver to the BCPCH the following:
 - i. The CDDL;
 - ii. Certified minutes of the Convention.

7. DETERMINATION OF THE ORDER OF ROTATION; VOTING BY SECRET BALLOT -

If no consensus is reached in determining the order of rotation through Mushawara, voting by secret ballot shall be conducted. (n)

The Electoral Committee shall determine the order of rotation immediately after the counting of votes, based on the total number of votes garnered by each Sultanate or Royal House. The Sultanate or Royal House receiving the highest number of votes shall be placed first in the order of rotation, followed by the next highest, and so on, until all are ranked. (n)



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8. The official order of rotation shall be stated in the Certificate of Canvass, publicly proclaimed by the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee during the announcement of results. (n)

9. NON-PARTICIPATION OF A SULTANATE IN THE REGIONAL CONVENTION OF SULTANS; EFFECT ON THE ORDER OF ROTATION - In cases where a Sultanate is not represented in the Regional Convention of Sultans, or where there is no registered and accredited TLO for such Sultanate, it shall be placed last in the order of rotation. (n)

ARTICLE XVIII. OPPOSITION AND DISPUTES RESOLUTION

1. **Recording in Minutes of Challenges, Disputes, and Oppositions.** – The Poll Clerk must record in the Minutes all challenges, oaths taken, and the resolutions of the electoral committee on each case. The Poll Clerk shall certify that the Minutes contain all challenges, oaths, and resolutions made.
2. **Opposition and Dispute Resolution** –
 - a. Any opposition concerning the: (1) registration of delegates; (1) composition and qualification of the Electoral Committee and Secretariat, shall be filed with the Rules Committee within seven (7) days from the date of the Regional Convention of Sultans. (n)
 - b. Any question, protest, or opposition arising in the course of the voting process and the counting of votes shall be filed with the Electoral Committee, which shall act through its Chairperson and decide the same by simple majority vote. The decision of the Electoral Committee on such matters shall be final and immediately executory. (n)
3. **Opposition to Nominees** - Any opposition regarding the qualifications of nominees shall be filed with the Rules of Committee within seven (7) days from the publication of the list of nominees by the BCPCH.
4. **Resolution of Disputes** –
 - a. The Rules Committee shall resolve any opposition or dispute arising from the Convention, except election-specific matters, including protests, oppositions, and other issues involving the voting process or the counting of votes, within a non-extendible period of ten (10) days from the date of formal submission. (n)
 - b. The decision of the Rules Committee shall be promulgated in writing, signed by the majority of its members, and shall be final and executory.

INTRA-SULTANATE ASSEMBLY

ARTICLE XIX. PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

1. **Call for the 2025 Intra-Sultanate Assembly.**



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Call for the 2025 Intra-Sultanate Assembly. Within the calendar of activities prescribed by the COMELEC, and in compliance with the BEC and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, the BEO shall call, through a Notice, the Intra-Sultanate Assembly of the concerned sultanate. The Notice shall indicate the specific date, time, venue, agenda, and other relevant details of the Assembly, and shall be issued at least thirty (30) days prior to the actual date of the assembly. (n)

The BCPCH shall establish and implement the guidelines containing the internal rules and mechanisms for the conduct of the Intra- Sultanate Assembly. (n)

2. Designation of Delegates and Nominees.

A qualified Sectoral Organization (SO) or RPPP Sectoral Wing belonging to the Traditional Leaders sector is entitled to Ten (10) delegates to participate and vote in the Intra-Sultanate Assembly. The delegates must be *bona-fide* members of the Sultanate or Royal House currently designated to assume representation as determined in the order of rotation during the Regional Convention of Sultans.

The SO or RPPP Sectoral Wing shall issue a resolution, in a form prescribed by the BCPCH, designating Ten (10) from among its qualified members as the official delegates of the organization.

If the SO or RPPP Sectoral Wing nominates or fields a candidate to the Assembly, a resolution, in a form prescribed by the BCPCH, designating its nominee shall be issued by the respective SO or RPPP Sectoral Wing. A delegate who is also the nominee shall be stated in the issued resolution.

The manner of selection of the delegates and nominees must be in accordance with the established internal selection process of the SO or Sectoral Wing and consistent with its constitution and by-laws.

3. Qualifications of a Delegate.

A delegate and a nominee must secure a Certification of Membership from the BCPCH certifying that they are members of the Traditional Leaders Sector. Such Certification of Membership shall form part of the documentary requirements to be submitted by an Intra- Sultanate Assembly delegate or a nominee. (n)

No SO or Sectoral Wing member shall qualify as a delegate to the Assembly unless he/she meets the following qualifications:

- a. A registered voter in the BARMM;
- b. A bona fide member of the Traditional Leaders sector; and
- c. A member in good standing as certified by the SO or Sectoral Wing of a RPPP;

4. Qualifications of a Nominee.

No SO or Sectoral Wing members shall qualify as a nominee to the Assembly unless he/she meets following qualifications:

- a. A Filipino citizen;
- b. At least twenty-five (25) years of age on the day of the election;
- c. Able to read and write;



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- d. A registered voter in the BARMM;
- e. A bona fide member of the Traditional Leaders sector; and
- f. A member of either an RPPP through its Sectoral Wing or parliamentary sectoral party or organization ("PSO") duly registered and accredited by the COMELEC, through the BEO.

ARTICLE XX. FILING OF NOMINATION AS CANDIDATES FOR THE ASSEMBLY

1. The BCPCH shall schedule the filing of Nomination of Candidates for the Intra-Sultanate Assembly within thirty (30) days from the actual date of Assembly.
2. Any SO or Sectoral Wing that intends to field a nominee shall submit personally to the BCPCH the following requirements:
 - a. Sworn Certificate of Nomination and Acceptance (CONA) of the nominee;
 - b. Certificate of Registration and Accreditation of the SO or Sectoral Wing filed with the COMELEC;
 - c. Traditional Leaders' Organization Certificate issued by the BCPCH; and
 - d. Certification of Membership issued by the BCPCH which must contain the following:
 - i. That the nominee has a track record of outstanding and relevant involvement, accomplishments, and ethical behavior in the community and sector being represented, evidenced by a list of community or sectoral engagement;
 - ii. Signature of the head of the BCPCH; and
 - iii. Official seal of the BCPCH.

Upon submission of the aforementioned documents, and verification that the Nominee is a bona fide member of the Sultanate or Royal House currently designated to assume representation as determined in the order of rotation during the Regional Convention of Sultans, and upon finding the documents to be in order, the BCPCH shall ministerially accept the filing of nomination of a candidate for the Assembly.

3. Late filing of nomination beyond the prescribed period will not be accepted and the concerned nominee will not be listed for voting in the Assembly.
4. The official list of nominees shall be published in the BCPCH and BARMM websites and social media accounts at least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled date of the Assembly.



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ARTICLE XXI. REGISTRATION AND ENTRY PROCEDURES

- 1. Registration.** – Registration will start at six o'clock (6:00) in the morning and will end at twelve o'clock (12:00) noontime.
 - a. A delegate shall be required to present: 1) a valid government ID, 2) original copy of the SO or Sectoral Wing Resolution designating him/her as a delegate to the Assembly, 3) the original copy of the certificate of registration and accreditation issued by COMELEC, and 4) the original copy of the Traditional Leader Organization Certificate issued by the BCPCH. Any person who fails to submit the aforementioned documents shall not be registered as a Delegate and will not be allowed to enter the Assembly Venue nor be allowed to participate in the voting. The delegate must also likewise be a bona fide member of the Sultanate or Royal House currently designated to assume representation as determined in the order of rotation during the Regional Convention of Sultans.
 - b. No Delegate will be allowed to register after 12:00 o'clock noontime unless he/she is within the 100 meters from the registration area at the closing hour of registration. In such instance, the Poll Clerk shall record the names of the persons found within 100 meters from the registration area in the Minutes.
- 2. Secretariat.** - The Secretariat, under the supervision of the Rules Committee, will be responsible in administering the registration of Delegates and prepare the Assembly Day List of Delegates that will be entitled to participate and vote during the Assembly.
- 3. Assembly Hours.** – The Assembly shall begin at one o'clock (1:00pm) in the afternoon and end at five o'clock in the afternoon (5:00pm) or until the counting of votes and announcement of the result of the voting is completed.

ARTICLE XXII. HOUSE RULES DURING THE ASSEMBLY

- 1. Attendance.** Only registered Delegates and Nominees are allowed to attend and participate in the Assembly. However, the following non-delegates shall be permitted entry:
 - Committee Members and BCPCH personnel
 - COMELEC-BEO Representatives
 - COMELEC Accredited Media
 - COMELEC Accredited Citizen's Arms. – Representatives from accredited citizen's arms, such as civil society organizations, are permitted to attend the Assembly to observe the proceedings and the conduct of a clean, free, and honest election.



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- Legal Counsel – A duly authorized lawyer of a nominee may attend the Assembly and represent the nominee in the event of any legal dispute arising from the conduct of the Assembly, the qualifications of a nominee, or the validity of the Assembly Election Return. Any lawyer who will appear during the Assembly must submit his/her credentials to the Rules Committee at least three (3) days prior to the scheduled Assembly.
- 2. **Respect and Decorum.** All delegates, nominees and observers must maintain respect and decorum, avoid personal attacks and disruptive behavior and refrain from using scandalous, inflammatory, foul, abusive, and derogatory language.
- 3. **Speaking Order.** Any Delegate who wishes to speak must raise his/her hand to be recognized by the Chairperson. Speeches should be brief and concise and relevant to the agenda.
- 4. **No Campaign Paraphernalia.** Campaign paraphernalia are not allowed within the Assembly venue.
- 5. **Prohibition Against Political Activity.** No member of any committee is allowed, directly or indirectly, to campaign for or against a nominee.
- 6. **Media Coverage.** Media accredited by the COMELEC may cover the proceedings non-intrusively and within designated areas allowed by the Rules Committee. They are not allowed in the voting area.
- 7. **Security.** The BCPCH shall coordinate with the Ministry of Interior and Local Government (MILG) for the proper coordination with the Philippine National Police in securing the premises of the Assembly venue. Firearms shall not be allowed inside the Assembly venue.
- 8. **Confidentiality.** Non-delegates, media, and citizen's arms must comply with the Data Privacy Act of 2012.
- 9. **Prohibition on Proxy Voting.** Proxy voting is strictly prohibited in both the Regional Assembly of Sultans and the Intra-Sultanate Assembly. Under this provision, "proxy voting" refers to the act of a delegate or nominee authorizing another delegate, nominee, or any other individual to vote or represent them in their absence. This restriction is enforced to guarantee that all votes accurately reflect the direct participation and genuine intent of the delegates present during the assembly and Assembly.
- 10. **Venue.** The Assembly shall be held at the Shariff Kabunsuan Cultural Complex (SKCC), Bangsamoro Government Center, Cotabato City.
- 11. **Special Assistance.** Delegates requiring special assistance, such as persons with disabilities, pregnant women and senior citizens, are entitled to be prioritized in the order of registration and voting.



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12. **Nominee Assistance Desk (NAD).** A Nominee Assistance Desk (NAD) shall be available in strategic areas of the venue to guide and assist Delegates/Nominees and provide proper orientation on the procedure and manner of voting during the Assembly.
13. **Medical Team.** A medical team shall be present outside the Assembly venue for the provision of emergency medical care and first aid when needed.

ARTICLE XXIII. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

To avoid conflict of interest, any official or employee of the BCPCH who has accepted a nomination to be a Traditional Leaders sectoral representative shall recuse himself/herself from participating in any of the Assembly proceedings or preparations pertaining thereto.

ARTICLE XXIV. THE ASSEMBLY CHAIRPERSON

1. **Assembly Chairperson.** – The Assembly Chairperson shall be the head of office of the BCPCH. He/she shall call the Assembly to order, preside over the proceedings and ensure the peaceful and orderly conduct of the Assembly.
2. **Powers and Duties of the Assembly Chairperson.**
 - **Act as Presiding Officer of the Assembly.** The Assembly Chairperson is responsible for conducting and expediting the business of the Assembly, ensuring adherence to these guidelines, and maintaining order and decorum.
 - **Call the Roll and Declare the Quorum.** – A roll call of delegates will be conducted at the beginning of the Assembly to establish a quorum to conduct business. The Assembly Chairperson shall certify the presence of a quorum. If a quorum is not achieved, he/she shall declare the absence of a quorum, adjourn the proceedings, and schedule a new date for the Assembly.
 - **Referral to the Rules Committee.** – For complex or contentious procedural matters, the Assembly Chairperson may refer the issue to the Rules Committee for review and recommendations. The Rules Committee is responsible for providing guidance on the application of the Assembly's rules and procedures.
 - **Disciplinary Power.** – The Assembly Chairperson shall have the authority to summarily remove or deny entry of non-delegates who violate any of the house rules as set forth under this Guidelines.
 - **Disqualifications.** – No person shall serve as Assembly Chairperson if he/she is related within the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity to any nominee.

ARTICLE XXV. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business in the Assembly shall be as follows:

1. **Preliminaries.** – Prayers,/Du'a, and singing of the Philippine National Anthem and the BARMM Hymn.



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2. **Roll Call.** – The Assembly Chairperson shall instruct the secretariat to call the roll. He/she shall immediately call the Assembly to order after confirming the presence of a quorum.
3. **Message of the Assembly Chairperson.** – The Assembly Chairperson shall address the Assembly and acknowledge the delegates present.
4. **Presentation of Nominees** – Each nominee shall be called on stage and introduced to the Assembly. The introduction shall be limited to their full name, affiliation, and track record.
5. **Orientation.** – The Assembly Chairperson shall provide an overview of the Assembly and the manner of voting.
6. **Voting Proper**
7. **Official Announcement of the Results by the Electoral Committee Chairperson**
8. **Adjournment**

ARTICLE XXVI. ASSEMBLY FORMS AND SUPPLIES

The BCPCH shall provide the Rules Committee and the Electoral Committee with the ballot boxes, tally sheets, secrecy folder and other supplies necessary for the efficient conduct of the Assembly and voting.

The Rules Committee shall cause the printing of the official ballots that will be used in the Assembly.

Distribution of Assembly Forms and Supplies. – The Rules Committee shall release the official ballots to the Electoral Committee at nine o'clock in the morning of the Assembly Day.

The BCPCH shall distribute the other election paraphernalia such as the ballot secrecy folder, ballot box, tally sheet, Assembly election returns, and supplies to the Electoral Committee.

The Electoral Committee shall thoroughly check the ballots, forms, documents, and supplies. Any issue or discrepancy as to the number of official ballots, shall be reported immediately to the Rules Committee and such incident shall be recorded in the Minutes of the Assembly by the Poll Clerk.

ARTICLE XXVII. DOCUMENTATION OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY



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The Minutes of the Assembly shall be duly recorded by the Poll Clerk and signed by the Assembly Chairperson and Electoral Committee Chairperson. The BCPCH shall provide the necessary technical support for the preparation of the Minutes. Copies of the signed Minutes must be distributed to all sectoral organizations within thirty (30) days following the Assembly either physically or electronically.

ARTICLE XXVIII. CONDUCT OF THE ASSEMBLY

1. **Preliminaries to Voting.** – The Intra-Sultanate Assembly shall be conducted by the concerned Sultanate, based on their rotational order, to select their sectoral representative in the Parliament. (n)

For this purpose, the BCPCH shall monitor the Intra-Sultanate Assembly. The concerned Sultanate must submit its election mechanism to the BCPCH and furnish the BEO with a copy thereof.

The election mechanism, reflecting the existing customs, practices, and norms of the concerned Sultanate, must include the following:

- a. The list of members belonging to the accredited sectoral organizations who are qualified to vote;
- b. Their preferred manner of voting;
- c. Manner of counting of votes;
- d. Announcement of results; and
- e. Other internal processes.

On the day of the Assembly, the Electoral Committee shall meet at the Voting Area inside the Assembly venue and perform the following preliminary activities:

- a. At 9:00 o'clock in the morning of the Assembly Day,
- b. Receive and check the official ballots, ballot box, secrecy folder, and other election supplies.
- c. Strategically arrange the chairs and tables to be used inside the voting area in such a way that they are at least one (1) meter apart from each other; and
- d. Set up the segregated waiting areas for men and women.

2. **Who May Vote** – Only the delegates from the Traditional Leader Organizations and Sectoral Wings affiliated/belonging to the Sultanate or Royal House that obtained the majority vote during the Regional Convention of Sultans and who meet all the qualifications set forth in the preceding Articles of this Guideline shall be entitled to vote in the assembly;

3. **Rules to be Observed During the Voting.** –

- a. No member of any citizen's arm shall be allowed to enter the places reserved for the voters and the Electoral Committee, nor mingle and talk with the delegates;
- b. No person carrying any firearm or other deadly weapon shall be allowed within the voting area.



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- c. No crowding of delegates and disorderly behavior inside the voting area.
 - d. The ballot box shall remain locked until the voting is finished and the counting begins. Except when it becomes necessary to make room for more ballots, the Chairperson, may, in the presence of citizen's arm and Rules Committee, open the box, press down the ballots without removing any of them. After which, the Chairperson shall again close the ballot box and lock it with the padlock. Such facts shall be recorded in the Minutes.
4. **Prohibition on Voting.** — It shall be unlawful for anyone to:
- a. Bring the ballot and/or the ballot secrecy folder outside the voting area;
 - b. Speak with anyone while inside the voting area as herein provided;
 - c. Fill-up the ballot without using a ballot secrecy folder or exhibit its contents to any person, except in cases of assisted voting. Only members of the Electoral Committee are allowed to assist Delegates;
 - d. Erase any printing from the ballot or place any distinguishing mark thereon;
 - e. Use carbon paper, paraffin paper, or other means of making a copy of the contents of the ballot, or otherwise make use of any other scheme to identify the vote, including the use of digital cameras, cellular phones, or similar gadgets;
 - f. Intentionally tear or deface the ballot; and
 - g. Disrupt or attempt to disrupt the proceedings of the Electoral Committee.
5. **Persons Allowed Inside the Voting Area.** — Only the following shall be allowed inside the voting area:
- a. Electoral Committee members;
 - b. Citizen's arm who shall stay only in the space reserved for them;
 - c. Delegates casting their votes;
 - d. Delegates waiting for their turn to vote; and
 - e. Others who are specifically authorized by the Electoral Committee whose presence must be specifically recorded in the Minutes.
6. **Persons Not Allowed to Enter the Assembly Venue.** — Unless specifically authorized by the BCPCH, it is unlawful for the following to enter the Assembly venue, or stay within a radius fifty (50) meters, except to vote:
- (a) Any officer or member of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) or the Philippine National Police (PNP);
 - (b) Any peace officer or armed person belonging to any extra-legal police agency, special forces, reaction forces, strike forces, Civilian Armed Force Geographical Units (CAFGUs), barangay tanods, BPAT, or other similar forces or para-military forces including security guards and special policemen; and
 - (c) All other kinds of armed or unarmed extra-legal police forces;
- However, if it deems necessary, the Assembly Chairperson may, by a majority vote, order in writing the detail of policemen or peace officers for its protection or for the protection of the election documents and paraphernalia.



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In which case, the said policemen or peace officers shall stay outside the polling place within a radius of thirty (30) meters near enough to be easily called by the Assembly Chairperson at any time, but never at the door, and in no case shall the said policemen or peace officer hold any conversation with any voter and disturb, prevent, or in any manner obstruct the free access of the voters to the polling place. Such order shall be recorded in the Minutes.

7. **Authentication of the Ballot.** — In every case, the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall, in the presence of the delegate and before giving the ballot to the delegate, authenticate the same by affixing his/her signature at the back thereof.
8. **Order of Voting.** — the Delegates will vote according to their SO's name arranged in alphabetical order by the Secretariat.
The delegate shall fall in line in the order when the name of the SO is called and cast his/her vote in the same order. The voting area shall be limited to ten (10) Delegates at a time. Delegates shall not crowd around the voting area and shall immediately leave after casting their votes.
The Electoral Committee shall give priority to PWDs, Senior Citizens, and heavily pregnant Delegates in the casting of votes.
9. **Segregated Waiting/Holding Area.** — There shall be ample space for at least twenty (20) persons at one time, accessible to wheelchair users, if available, to be used as holding area. The holding area shall be used by delegates waiting for their turn to vote. The delegates shall sit and arrange themselves in the order that they are called by the Electoral Committee, such that they will vote according to the sequence of their arrival.
10. **Manner of Obtaining Ballots and Voting.** —
 - a. The Delegate shall approach the Electoral Committee and provide the name of his/her SO as well as his/her complete name.
 - b. The Electoral Committee shall verify if the Sectoral Organization (SO) is found in the Assembly Day Delegates List (ADDL). If the SO is on the list, the Delegate shall sign the ADDL and thereafter be issued an Official Ballot. Only the Chairperson shall issue the ballot and only one ballot shall be issued per delegate.
 - c. A Delegate shall vote only one (1) Nominee from the Names of Nominees appearing on the Ballot. The secrecy folder must be used while a Delegate is casting his/her vote. After voting, the Delegate will fold the ballot cross-wise and put it inside the ballot box. Thereafter, he/she should leave the voting area immediately to give way for the other Delegates.
11. **Accomplishment of Ballots for Illiterate, Persons with Disabilities, or Senior Citizens (SCs).** — In case a delegate is an illiterate, a PWD, or a senior citizen, they may be assisted in the voting by any member of the Electoral Committee. The fact of illiteracy or disability shall be indicated in the Minutes of the Assembly.



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12. Procedure After Voting. —

- a. After accomplishing the ballot, the delegate shall fold it in the same manner as it was received;
- b. In the presence of all the members of the Electoral Committee, the delegate shall, without unfolding the ballot, return the folded ballot to the Chairperson;
- c. The Chairperson, in the presence of all the members of the Electoral Committee without unfolding the ballot and seeing its contents, shall verify whether the ballot returned by the voter is the same ballot issued to the voter, by comparing the serial number of the ballot that was returned against the serial number of the ballot issued to the voter as earlier recorded;
- d. If the serial number of the ballot returned by the voter is not the same as the serial number of the ballot issued to the voter, the ballot shall be considered spoiled. The spoiled ballot shall, without being unfolded, and without removing the detachable coupon be distinctly marked with the word "spoiled" and signed by the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee at the back thereof and immediately placed in the compartment for spoiled ballots. The incident shall be recorded in the Minutes;
- e. If the serial number of the ballot that was returned by the voter is the same as that recorded, the Chairperson shall deposit the folded ballot in the ballot box compartment for valid ballots; and
- f. The voter shall then leave the voting place.

13. Close of Voting Process. — The voting shall be closed after all Delegates present shall have casted their votes. The specific time when the voting is closed will be recorded in the Minutes.

ARTICLE XXIX. COUNTING OF VOTES

1. Preliminaries. — The Electoral Committee shall unlock the ballot box, take out the ballots from the compartment for valid ballots, and proceed to examine the ballots to determine whether there are:

- a. **Excess Ballots.** – The Electoral Committee shall, without unfolding the ballots or exposing their contents, count the number of ballots in the compartment for valid ballots, and compare the number of ballots inside the ballot box with the number of voters who voted as reflected in the CDDL. If there are more ballots than there are voters who voted, all the ballots shall be returned to the compartment for valid ballots and thoroughly mixed therein. The Poll Clerk, without seeing the ballots and with his back to the ballot box, shall publicly draw out as many ballots as may be equal to the excess and, without unfolding them, place them in the Envelope for Excess Ballots.
- b. **Marked Ballots.** – The Electoral Committee shall then unfold the ballots and determine whether there are any marked ballots. If any should be found, they shall be placed in an Envelope for Marked Ballots which shall



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be sealed and signed by the Electoral Committee. The marked ballots shall not be counted.

2. **Manner of Counting of Votes.** – Counting of votes is done by the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee.

The counting of votes shall be public without interruption or delay until completed and shall proceed as follows:

- i. The Electoral Committee shall open the ballot box, take out the ballots, and without unfolding them or exposing their contents except so far as to ascertain that each ballot is single, compare the number of ballots in the ballot box with the number of voters who voted as recorded in the Minutes.
- ii. The Chairperson shall take the ballots of the first pile and read the ballots one by one; while the Poll Clerk and a third member of the Electoral Committee shall record on the printed tally sheet.
- iii. Each vote shall be recorded by a vertical line (tara), except every fifth vote, which shall be recorded by a diagonal line crossing the previous four vertical lines.
- iv. After all the ballots for the Assembly have been counted, the Electoral Committee shall:
 - Prepare the Assembly Electoral Returns based on the final result of the tally sheet;
 - Sign and affix their thumb marks on the certification portion printed at the bottom of the tally sheet; and
 - Place the counted ballots in the special envelope provided for the purpose, the electoral committee shall close the envelope with a paper seal, and sign and deposit the same in the compartment for valid ballots. The accomplished tally sheet, certified by the Electoral Committee, shall also be deposited in the compartment for valid ballots.

3. **Assembly Election Returns and Distribution of Copies Thereof.** – The Electoral Committee shall prepare the returns after the counting of votes. The returns shall be prepared in five (5) copies. All the members of the Electoral Committee shall sign the certification printed at the bottom of the returns and affix their respective thumb marks on the space provided.

Upon completion of the returns, each copy shall be placed in a separate special envelope provided for the purpose, and be immediately distributed to the following:

- a. One (1) original copy to the BEO through the Electoral Committee;
- b. One (1) original copy to the Office of the Chief Minister;
- c. One (1) original copy to the COMELEC Accredited Citizens Arms;
- d. One (1) original copy to the Rules Committee; and
- e. One (1) original copy to the BCPCH.

A photocopy of the Assembly Election Returns shall also be given to a SO/Sectoral Wing who has fielded a nominee.



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A document signed by the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee certifying and reflecting the name of the winning sectoral representative must likewise be submitted to the BEO. (n)

4. **Announcement of Results.** – Upon completion of the returns, the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall officially announce the results of the voting by reading the total number of votes obtained by each nominee.
5. **Disposition of Ballot Boxes, Keys, Returns, and Other Documents.** – Upon the termination of the counting of votes and the announcement of results in the Assembly, the Electoral Committee shall:
 - a. Place the following documents inside the compartment of the ballot box for valid ballots:
 - i. Envelopes containing the:
 1. Counted official ballots;
 2. Excess/marked/spoiled and one-half of torn unused official ballots;
 3. Returns (copy for the ballot box); and
 4. Minutes of the Assembly (copy for the ballot box);
 - ii. Tally Sheet; and
 - iii. Stubs of used official ballots.
 - b. Close the interior covers of the ballot box and seal it with a plastic security seal, lock the outer cover of the ballot box with the one (1) padlock, and seal it with a plastic security seal.
 - c. The keys to the padlock shall be placed in a separate envelope which shall be sealed and signed by all members of the Electoral Committee and submitted to the chairperson.
 - d. Deliver to the BCPCH the following:
 - i. The ADDL;
 - ii. Certified minutes of the Assembly;
 - iii. Envelope containing the returns copy;
 - iv. Envelope containing the keys to the ballot box; and
 - v. Envelope containing the other half of torn unused ballots.
6. **Culmination of the Intra-Sultanate Assembly.** The Chairperson shall formally announce the conclusion of the Intra-Sultanate Assembly. Following this announcement, the elected Traditional Leader representative shall be allotted a maximum of ten (10) minutes to deliver an acceptance speech, should they choose to do so. This speech serves as an opportunity for the representative to express gratitude and outline their vision for the upcoming term.
7. **Proclamation of Sectoral Representatives.** – The elected sectoral representatives shall be proclaimed simultaneously by the COMELEC during the October 13, 2025 parliamentary election.



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ARTICLE XXX. OPPOSITION AND DISPUTES

1. **Recording in Minutes of Challenges, Disputes, and Oppositions.** – The Poll Clerk must record in the Minutes all challenges, oaths taken, and the resolutions of the electoral committee on each case. The Poll Clerk shall certify that the Minutes contain all challenges, oaths, and resolutions made.
2. **Opposition/Dispute.** – Opposition/Dispute Filed with the Rules Committee - Any opposition/ dispute as to the registration of delegates, composition and qualification of the Electoral Committee and Secretariat, concerning the Assembly, shall be filed with the Rules Committee within seven (7) days from the date of Assembly. (n)

Any opposition to the qualifications of the nominees shall be filed with the Rules Committee, within seven (7) days from the date of publication of the list of nominees by the BCPCH. (n)

The Rules Committee shall resolve any opposition or dispute arising from the Convention, except election-specific matters, including protests, oppositions, and other issues involving the voting process or the counting of votes, within a non-extendible period of ten (10) days from the date of formal submission. (n)

The decision of the Rules Committee shall be promulgated in writing, duly signed by the majority of its members, and shall be final and executory. Matters falling under the jurisdiction of the Electoral Committee shall not be entertained by the Rules Committee. (n)

3. **Opposition/Dispute Filed with the Electoral Committee**

Any question, protest, or opposition arising in the course of the voting process and the counting of votes shall be filed with the Electoral Committee, which shall act through its Chairperson and decide the same by simple majority vote. The decision of the Electoral Committee on such matters shall be final and immediately executory. (n)

Matters falling under the jurisdiction of the Rules Committee shall not be entertained by the Electoral Committee. (n)

4. **SUBMISSION OF RESULTS OF THE INTRA- SULTANATE ASSEMBLY -**

The name of the Traditional Leader Sectoral Representative, as determined in the Intra-Sultanate Assembly, shall be submitted by the concerned sultanate through the BCPCH to the BEO within seven (7) calendar days before the regular BARMM parliamentary elections. (n)



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ARTICLE XXXI. REPEALING CLAUSE – Any provision of the existing guidelines that is contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Supplemental Resolution is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

ARTICLE XXXII. Separability Clause. – If for any reason, any provision of this Guidelines is declared null and void or unconstitutional, the other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

ARTICLE XXXIII. Effectivity. – This Guidelines shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the Bangsamoro Gazette.



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BALLOT TEMPLATE

REGIONAL CONVENTION OF SULTANS
SECRET BALLOT FOR ORDER OF ROTATION
Election Date: [Insert Date]

Instructions:

- Rank the Sultanates/Royal Houses in order of preference for representation by writing **1, 2, 3, or 4** in the space provided.
 - 1 = First in rotation
 - 2 = Second in rotation
 - 3 = Third in rotation
 - 4 = Last in rotation
- Do not leave any space blank.**
- Use the secrecy folder when casting your vote.
- Fold your ballot cross-wise after voting and place it inside the ballot box.
- Leave the voting area immediately after casting your vote.

Sultanate/Royal House	Rank (1-4)
Sultanate of Sulu	__
Sultanate of Maguindanao, Buayan, Kabuntalan	__
Royal House of Ranao	__
Royal House of Iranun	__

Signature of Delegate: _____



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TALLY SHEET TEMPLATE

REGIONAL CONVENTION OF SULTANS VOTE TALLY SHEET

Sultanate/Royal House	1	2	3	4	Total Score
Sultanate of Sulu					
Sultanate of Maguindanao, Buayan, Kabuntalan					
Royal House of Ranao					
Royal House of Iranun					

Tallying Process:

1. The Sultanate/Royal House with the **highest total score** is ranked first in the order of rotation.
2. In case of a tie, a **run-off election** shall be conducted.
3. The final order of rotation shall be officially recorded and recognized.

Certified Correct by:

Chairperson, Electoral Committee

Member, Electoral Committee

Member, Electoral Committee