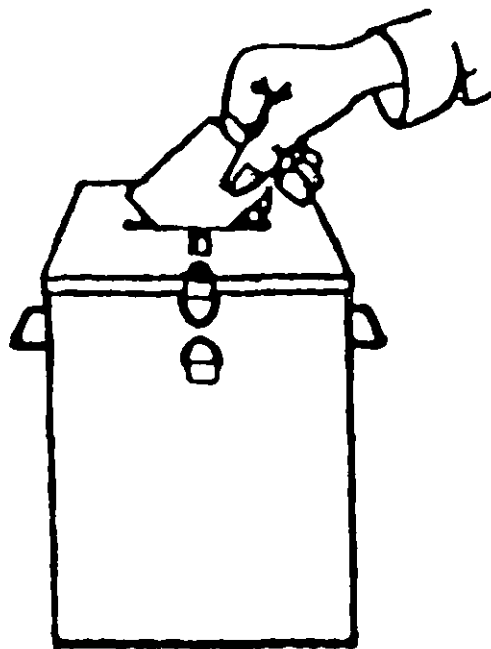


Date Printed: 06/16/2009

JTS Box Number: IFES_79
Tab Number: 40
Document Title: Civic Education Teaching Manual 2nd
edition
Document Date: nd
Document Country: Uganda
Document Language: English
IFES ID: CE01958



**CONSTITUENT
ASSEMBLY
ELECTION**



**CIVIC EDUCATION TEACHING
MANUAL**

2ND EDITION

Congratulation on being appointed a civic educator at this critical stage of the work of the Constituent Assembly Commission! At this stage of the electoral process, you as a civic educator have an important role to play to ensure that all registered voters in your parish exercise their civic right and duty to choose capable candidates for the Constituent Assembly, and vote properly on Polling day.

Your tasks include the following:

1. To stress to voters the importance of the Constitution, and the citizen's right and duty to take part in determining the constitution of the nation.
2. Remind voters to keep their Registration Certificates safe.

Emphasize that:

- (a) Voters have to show their registration certificates on Polling Day before they will be given the ballot paper to vote;
 - (b) It is against the law to sell the registration certificate;
 - (c) It is against the law for anyone to try and use another person's registration certificate to obtain the ballot paper.
3. Urge voters to attend the candidates' meetings in your parish or nearby parishes in your Electoral Area, and to listen to individual candidates who go round the parish to talk to people. Encourage the people to ask questions and find out each candidate's views about what should be contained in the New Constitution, and make their own ideas about the Constitution known to the candidates.
 4. Advise voters to assess each candidate on;
 - (i) his/her views about the constitution; and
 - (ii) whether the candidate can take part effectively in the discussion of the constituent assembly.
 5. Help Voters to learn about the important provisions of the Draft Constitution.
 6. Advise voters to learn to recognise the pictures of the candidates they decide to vote for, especially if they cannot read.
 7. Inform all registered voters in your parish about the voting regulations; and the procedures for voting, counting of votes, and announcement of results.
 8. Teach all voters how to follow the voting procedure smoothly on Polling Day.
 9. Get voters to learn how to mark the ballot paper right, and fold it right.
 10. Continually remind Voters that 28th March, 1994 is Polling Day.
 11. Get all registered voters in your parish to go and vote right on Polling Day.

To assist you to accomplish these tasks, information directed to voters have been provided under the following headings:

1. CANDIDATES' MEETINGS/CANDIDATES CAMPAIGNS
YOUR CHANCE TO ASSESS THE CANDIDATES.
2. VOTING.
3. THE CONSTITUTION.
4. THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION-SELECTED PROVISIONS POLITICAL SYSTEMS.
5. THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION-SOME SELECTED PROVISIONS LAND.
6. THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION-SOME SELECTED PROVISIONS CITIZENSHIP-
WHO IS A UGANDAN?.

Scripts on some other provisions of the Draft Constitution will be supplied.

Record Cards

New record cards have been provided for your personal use. Please fill them accurately with dates, each time you have a session of civic education.

The information you give on these cards will be included in the data for the analysis and evaluation of the Commission's Civic Education Programme, and the findings of this study will be most useful in planning future programmes.

Your absolute honesty in filling these forms will therefore be your contribution to the work of the Commission, and the nation as a whole.

CANDIDATES' MEETINGS/CANDIDATES CAMPAIGNS YOUR CHANCE TO ASSESS THE CANDIDATES

Candidates' Meetings programmes have now been organised for all parishes throughout the country. At each Candidates' Meeting, all candidates of an Electoral Area are given equal opportunity to present themselves and their ideas about the Constitution to the public, and answer questions from voters.

Candidates are expected to stand on their own merit. The law does not allow any candidate to stand as a member of a political party. Candidates are also not allowed to attack each other at Candidates Meetings.

In each parish, the Candidates' Meeting is chaired by the Presiding Officer for the Electoral Area.

At every Candidates' Meeting, the Presiding Officer introduces the candidates one by one and allows each candidate reasonable time, in each case not less than twenty minutes, to address the meeting on matters relating to the Constitution.

After all candidates have addressed the meeting, the Presiding Officer invites questions from the voters, and a candidate to whom a question is directed is allowed reasonable time to answer.

At a candidates' meeting the Presiding Officer and candidates may use that local language of the area.

Candidates are also going round their Electoral Areas individually to speak to voters directly. Candidates are not allowed to hold separate rallies but they can speak to as many people as they wish face to face.

Now is your chance to assess the candidates of your Electoral Area. Attend the Candidates' Meeting in your parish, and listen to the candidates when they come round individually to speak to you. You can ask them questions and also give them your own views about the future Constitution.

Choose the candidate with whom you agree most about the future Constitution for Uganda, the candidate who you think can speak out and do the best job for you in the Constituent Assembly. Make sure you know his/her name and picture. On Polling Day you will need to recognise your candidate's picture and his/her name on the ballot paper to be able to vote for him/her.

VOTING

WHO CAN VOTE

Only Uganda Citizen who are at least 18 years old and have registered, can vote.

WHERE TO VOTE

The Polling station in your Parish/Village where you have your name on the register.

TIME TO VOTE: Polling Day is Monday 28th March, 1994.

1. Voting will be on this day only so do not miss it.
2. Voting begins at 7.00 a.m. and closes at 5.00 p.m. that day only.
3. Although stations may open slightly before that time, no polling starts till 7.00 a.m. and nobody will be admitted to the station to vote after 5.00 p.m. Only voters who are already in the line before 5.00 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

BEFORE VOTING BEGINS

1. The Presiding Officer will open the ballot box and show it to the public and candidates' agents by tilting it upside down to make sure it is empty and then seal it.
2. The Presiding Officer will show the parcelled and sealed ballot papers indicating to all present that they have not been tampered with, and that they are genuine.

HOW TO VOTE

1. On election day carry your own Certificate of Registration and go in person early to the polling station where you have your name on the Register.
2. Start or join the queue and wait for your turn to vote.
3. Go to table 1. There, you will show your Certificate of Registration. The Election Officer will check your name and number in the Register and examine your fingers.
4. If everything is in order, you will be given a ballot paper and your Certificate of Registration will be returned. Carry the ballot to table 2. There look *carefully* for the picture of the candidate of your choice and mark a tick..... or place your thumb print in the box beside the photograph of the candidate of your choice. **DON'T PUT ANY OTHER MARK ON THE BALLOT PAPER. NOTE THAT X IS NO LONGER A VOTING MARK, SO NEVER USE IT.**
5. Fold your ballot paper.

HOW TO FOLD THE BALLOT PAPER

(This is important for people who will mark the ballot paper by thumb-print).

- (a) To fold the ballot paper, first bring the two long edges together (that is, the left and right edges together) and crease the fold.
- (b) Then the top and bottom edges together, and crease the fold.

Note that if you fold the ballot paper by bringing together the top and bottom edges first, the wet thumb-print you have placed beside the picture of the candidate of your choice, may accidentally mark the space next to another candidate's picture and your ballot will be rejected because it has two marks.

6. Walk to table 3, where one ballot box sits. Put the folded ballot paper into the box through the slit in the top. Be sure you do *not* put your Certificate of Registration in the box. Only *ballots* go into the box.
7. Walk to table 4, and an Election Officer will help you dip the small finger of your left hand into the indelible ink. This is to show that you have voted.

SECRECY OF THE VOTE

The Voting is done in the open but your choice is secret.

IF YOU NEED HELP

If you need someone to help you vote, you should bring a member of your family or someone you know and trust. His/her age does not matter. If you have no one to help you then the Election Officers can help. They are sworn to secrecy.

SOME ELECTION OFFENCES: It is an election offence:-

to vote or try to vote more than once;

to forge a registration certificate or ballot paper;

to vote in the name of another person, living or dead;

to vote if you have not registered;

to vote if you are not qualified to vote.

Voting is a serious responsibility. Anyone who tries to cheat will be caught and prosecuted.

COUNTING OF VOTES:

After the Presiding Officer has closed the poll, votes at each polling station shall be counted at that station in the presence of the candidates and counting agents.

The Presiding Officer will unseal the box at the close of the poll and empty the contents carefully. The ballots will then be sorted into piles for each candidate and rejected ballots will be set aside. The Presiding Officer will reject ballot papers that do not have any marks; that are marked so badly that the intention of the voter is unclear; or are marked more than once. The number of ballots in the box are checked against the number of ballots issued to voters to ensure that the numbers tally. No uncounted votes stay overnight. The Commission will provide lanterns for vote counting if necessary.

BALLOTS THAT WILL NOT BE COUNTED

The presiding officer shall reject a ballot paper as invalid during the counting in the presence of the polling assistants plus candidates agents if it:-

- (i) is not perforated with the official mark;
- (ii) is empty and not bearing any voter's mark or thumb print.
- (iii) is marked by a voter more than once or such that the voter's choice is not clear.

The Presiding Officer shall announce the results of the poll to everyone present. The presiding officer shall enter the number of votes received by each candidate at the polling station against his/her name on the Form DR, Declaration of Results and the form will be completed in triplicate and signed by the presiding officer in the presence of candidates' counting agents. One copy will be kept at the polling station while the original and one other copy will be delivered to the returning officer by the presiding officer. The ballots and all materials are sealed and transported to a central place for safe keeping.

CANDIDATE'S RIGHT TO APPEAL

Any candidate who loses an election may, within 30 days from Polling Day, file a petition in a Chief Magistrate's Court or a Court presided over by a Magistrate Grade I.

Every such petition shall be determined quickly by the court, at most within three months from the date the petition is filed.

Any decision taken by the court shall be final, ie there shall be no appeal.