



Republic of the Philippines  
**COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS**  
Intramuros, Manila

**GUIDELINES FOR SECURING ELECTRONIC COPIES OF THE ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMITTED ELECTION RESULTS FROM THE TRANSPARENCY AND MIRROR SERVERS BY MASS MEDIA ENTITIES AND ACCREDITED CITIZENS' ARMS IN CONNECTION WITH THE 09 MAY 2016 NATIONAL, LOCAL AND ARMM ELECTIONS.**

**Present:**

Bautista, J.A.D., Chairman  
Lim, C.R.S., Commissioner  
Parreño, A.A., Commissioner  
Guia, L.T.F., Commissioner  
Lim, A.D., Commissioner  
Guanzon, R.A.V., Commissioner  
Abas, S.M., Commissioner

**Promulgated:** May 5, 2016

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**RESOLUTION NO. 10105A**

**WHEREAS**, Section 19 of Republic Act No. 9369, which amended Section 18 of the Republic Act No. 8436, provides for the electronic transmission of election precinct results to the "respective levels of board of canvassers, to the dominant majority and minority party, to the accredited citizen's arm, and to the *Kapisanan ng mga Broadcasters ng Pilipinas* (KBP)";

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), in compliance with the said provision of law, has set up the Transparency Server ("TS") in the Pope Pius XII Catholic Center Building to receive the electronically transmitted precinct results and disseminate the same to the abovementioned parties;

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of promoting transparency in the electoral process, the COMELEC has approved the requests of certain media organizations for access to the same election results data from a mirror or redundancy server ("MS");

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to issue guidelines for accessing the servers for the election results data without compromising the security of the TS and MS and affecting the integrity of the data in the said servers;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by virtue of the powers vested in it by the Constitution, Omnibus Election Code, Republic Act No. 9369 and other election laws, the Commission *en Banc* **RESOLVED** to **PROMULGATE** the following **GUIDELINES**:

1. *Scope of this Resolution.* – This Resolution shall apply all parties who are entitled to the electronically transmitted election results data by law, including those that were granted approval by the Commission *en Banc*, hereinafter referred to as the “end users”.

2. *End user classification.* – For purposes of managing the connections to either the TS or the MS, the end users shall be classified as either a TS or MS end user, based on the following listing:

(a) TS end users:

- i. Liberal Party (LP), as the dominant majority party;<sup>1</sup>
- ii. United Nationalist Alliance (UNA), as the dominant minority party;<sup>2</sup>
- iii. Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV), as the accredited citizens’ arm authorized by the Commission to conduct an unofficial count;<sup>3</sup> and
- iv. The *Kapisanan ng mga Broadcasters ng Pilipinas* (KBP).

(b) MS end users:

- i. Rappler, Inc.;
- ii. GMA Network, Inc.;
- iii. Philippine Daily Inquirer; and
- iv. Other organizations that the Commission *en Banc* may subsequently grant access to the MS.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 4, *Resolution No. 10094*.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Resolution promulgated 29 January 2015 in SPP Case No. 14 – 001.

3. *Provision of workstations and USB storage devices; submission of hardware for configuration.* – Workstation units in the form of laptop or notebook computers and USB storage devices shall be provided by the end users. To ensure that the workstation units are properly configured to download the electronic election results and are free of any malicious software, end users must submit their respective workstation units and USB storage devices ON OR BEFORE 12:00 NOON OF 30 APRIL 2016, SATURDAY to Mr. Roderic V. Ilagan, System Operation Division Officer-in-Charge, and/or Mr. Rouie J. Peñalba, Information Technology Officer II, at the Information Technology Department, 7<sup>th</sup> floor, Palacio del Gobernador, General Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila. Only one (1) workstation per end user shall be allowed to connect to either of the servers.

4. *Minimum and recommended specifications for the server-connected workstations and USB storage devices.* – The following minimum and recommended specifications for the workstation computers:

- (a) CPU: i5 or higher processor
- (b) RAM: at least 4GB
- (c) HDD: at least 300GB hard disk drive
- (d) USB port: at least 2 USB 2.0 ports (3.0 port recommended)
- (e) Display size: 13" minimum

In addition to the workstation computers, end users must submit at least one (1) USB storage device capable of storing at least four gigabytes (4 GB) of data.

5. *Hardware configuration and USB storage device formatting.* – All laptop or notebook computers and USB storage devices submitted by the end users as required by item 3 of this Resolution shall be configured and formatted by the Information Technology Department (ITD). The COMELEC shall not be responsible for the loss of data contained in the submitted computers and USB storage devices upon their submission. Neither shall COMELEC be responsible for any damage, loss, or disadvantage arising from product defects or inherent limitations of the hardware or devices provided by the end users.

6. *Data transfer protocol and limitations for accessing the Transparency and Mirror Servers.* – To minimize the risk of any security intrusions, no Internet or LAN access shall be allowed for the workstation units directly connected to either of the two (2) servers. The COMELEC shall, however, allow the transfer of data from the server-connected workstation to the end user's additional Internet/LAN-enabled workstation through the use of pre-configured USB storage devices only.

7. *Monitoring of the Server Room through the use of the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) System.* – The COMELEC shall install CCTV cameras within the Server Room.

8. *Electrical load (wattage) limit.* – For safety reasons, each end user shall observe a maximum five hundred (500)-wattage limit for all workstations and electrical/electronic devices that will be plugged into any of the electrical outlets located in the common Server Room.

9. *Personnel limit within the Server Room.* – A maximum of two (2) representatives/personnel from each end user shall be allowed to enter and remain in the Server Room at any given time. End users, however, may authorize more than two (2) of its personnel as long as they observe the two (2)-person limit. Authorized representatives or personnel of end users shall wear the jointly issued PPCRV Security Pass or Identification Card at all times while within the premises of the Pope Pius Catholic Center Building.

10. *Submission of personnel roster and other required information.* – To enable the COMELEC and the PPCRV to issue the Security Passes or Identification Cards, all end users shall submit a roster of their representatives or personnel assigned to the Pope Pius Catholic Center for the 09 May 2016 National, Local and ARMM Elections. The roster must indicate who among the personnel or representatives listed therein are authorized to access the Server Room to man the workstations. The personnel roster shall be accompanied by three (3) copies of colored pictures measuring two (2) inch by (2) inch of each person on the list, and must be submitted ON OR BEFORE 12:00 NOON OF 30 APRIL 2016, SATURDAY, to Mr.

**Roderic V. Ilagan**, *System Operation Division Officer-in-Charge*, and/or **Mr. Rouie J. Peñalba**, *Information Technology Officer II*, at the Information Technology Department, 7th floor, Palacio del Gobernador, General Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila, and must contain the following information:

- (a) Complete name
- (b) Job description or position held
- (c) Name of organization
- (d) Areas where the person is allowed to enter (*e.g. Server Room, Media Room, etc.*)
- (e) Contact details (email address and mobile number)

11. *Reporting disclaimers.* – Pursuant to second (2<sup>nd</sup>) to the last paragraph of Section 19 of RA 9369, the COMELEC shall consider as the “Official Election Results” the election returns transmitted electronically to the various board of canvassers which shall be used as the bases for the canvassing of votes and proclamation of winning candidates. Should end users publish, report, exhibit or broadcast the election results based on the data received from the Transparency or Mirror servers, the report must identify the source of the information together with a disclaimer or *caveat* informing the public that the same are “Unofficial Election Results”. All end users shall be free to exercise their own discretion or judgment in developing the wording of this disclaimer or *caveat* as long as the tenor of this Section is present and clearly conveyed in their report.

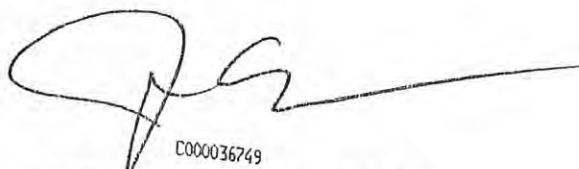
12. *Server administration.* – The COMELEC, through its ITD, shall be the Server Administrator for both the Transparency and Mirror Servers. Only personnel from the COMELEC ITD shall be allowed in the restricted area where the actual server and hardware equipment are located.

13. *Confidentiality of Information.* - All parties that are permitted access to the Transparency and Mirror Servers either by law or by a COMELEC Resolution and all its personnel directly involved in the operations in the Transparency and Mirror Servers shall sign a Confidentiality Agreement attached herein as Annex A.

14. *Effectivity.* – This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its promulgation.

15. *Dissemination.* – The Executive Director shall cause the dissemination of this Resolution to all parties covered by this Resolution. The Information Technology Department shall publish the same on the COMELEC website.

SO ORDERED.



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**J. ANDRES D. BAUTISTA**  
*Chairman*



**CHRISTIAN ROBERT S. LIM**  
*Commissioner*



**AL A. PARREÑO**  
*Commissioner*



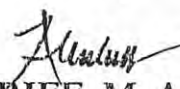
**LUE TITO F. GUIA**  
*Commissioner*



**ARTHUR D. LIM**  
*Commissioner*



**MA. ROWENA AMELIA V. GUANZON**  
*Commissioner*



**SHERIFF M. ABAS**  
*Commissioner*