



GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs) COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES, 2025

Our Ref: **EMT 301/01**

Date: **February 2025**

1.0 Introduction

These guidelines shall apply to the nomination of candidates for election of Persons with Disabilities to Committees and Councils from Village/Cell to District/City/Kampala Capital City Authority levels.

2.0 Laws applicable

- (a) The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995;
- (b) Electoral Commission Act, Cap. 176;
- (c) Persons with Disabilities Act (PWDA), Cap. 115;
- (d) The Political Parties and Organizations Act, Cap. 178;
- (e) The Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) Act, Cap. 195; and
- (f) Attendant Rules, Regulations and Guidelines that may be made from time to time.

3.0 Definition of Disability

Disability means substantial functional limitation of a person's daily life activities caused by physical, sensory or mental impairment and environmental barriers, resulting in limited participation in society on equal basis with others and includes an impairment specified in Schedule 3 of the PWDA.

4.0 Levels at which elections shall be held

These guidelines shall apply to the nomination of candidates for election of members of PWDs Committees at the following levels:-

- 4.1 Village/Cell;
- 4.2 Parish/Ward;
- 4.3 Sub-County/Town/Municipal Division;
- 4.4 Municipality/City Division;
- 4.5 District/City; and
- 4.6 Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA).

5.0 Electoral Structures/Colleges for Persons With Disabilities

5.1 Village/Cell level.

All willing persons with disabilities within a village/cell.

5.2 Parish/Ward Level

The five (5) PWD executive committee members from each village/cell within the parish/ward.

5.3 Sub-county/Town/Municipal Division Level

The five (5) PWD executive committee members from each parish/ward within the Sub-county/Town/Municipal Division.

5.4 Municipality/City Division Level

The five (5) PWD executive committee members from each parish/ward within the Municipality /City Division.

5.5 District/City Level

The five(5) PWD executive committee members from each Sub-county/Town/Municipal Division, Municipality or City Division executive committees within a district or city.

5.6 Kampala Capital City Authority

The five (5) PWD executive committee members from each City Division within Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA).

6.0 Composition of PWD Committees (Elective Offices)

The five Persons with Disabilities Delegates Executive Committee members at all levels shall ensure representation in terms of categories of disabilities and gender, where applicable.

7.0 Nomination of Candidates for Election as Members of PWD Committees

7.1 APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATION DAYS, PLACES AND TIME

The Electoral Commission shall publish in the Gazette and the local media the nomination day(s), place and time when candidates who wish to stand for election to the PWD committees shall be nominated.

7.2 Qualification of Candidates for Election as Members of PWD Committes

A person shall not qualify for election as a member of a PWD executive committee unless that person:-

- (a) is a citizen of Uganda;
- (b) a registered voter in NVR and the PWD Council Register;
- (c) has attained the age of eighteen years or above;
- (d) ordinarily resides in the village/cell (for village/cell elections); and
- (e) is a member of the PWD council for which the PWD committee is being elected (i.e. a registered voter in the PWD council register).

N.B. The disability codings prescribed in Schedule 3 of the Persons with Discability Act, Cap. 115 shall be used to determine whether impairment has substantial functional limitation of daily life activities for the person to qualify to be a person with disability.

7.2.1 Disability Codings (Schedule 3, Persons with Disability Act, Cap. 115)

- (a) Physical disability caused by cerebral palsy, amputation of a limb, paralysis or deformity;
- (b) Hearing disability including deafness and hard of hearing disability;
- (c) Visual disability including blindness and low vision disability;
- (d) Deaf and blind disability;
- (e) Mental disability including psychiatric disability and learning disability;
- (f) Little people;
- (g) Albinism; and
- (h) Multiple disability.

7.3 Nomination Procedures











- (a) Nomination of candidates for election to village/cell, parish/ward, Sub-county/Town/Municipal Division PWD committees shall be conducted at Sub-county/Town/Municipal Division level.
- (b) Nomination of candidates for election to Municipality/City Division PWD committees shall be conducted at Municipality/City Division level.
- (c) Nomination of candidates for election to District/City/KCCA PWD committees shall be conducted at District/City/KCCA level.
- (d) The nomination of candidates for election to an office on the PWD committee shall be made by the candidate himself/herself submitting to the Returning Officer a duly filled nomination paper on nomination day(s).
- (e) The nomination paper shall be signed by the candidate and seconded by two registered PWD voters in the respective Persons with Disabilities Council/Electoral College Register.
- (f) A person shall not subscribe to more than one nomination paper, and no person shall second more than one candidate for the same office.
- (g) The nomination of candidates may be made by a political organization or political party sponsoring a candidate or by a candidate standing for election as an independent without being sponsored by a political organization or political party.
- (h) A political organization or political party shall not sponsor more than one candidate for a given office.
- (i) Where only one candidate is nominated at the close of nomination day(s) the person nominated shall be declared elected unopposed.
- (j) Where at the close of nomination day(s), no person is duly nominated for election to an office, the Returning Officer shall report to the Commission that no candidate was nominated.

- N.B. i) No nomination fee is required for nomination of candidates to PWDs committees.**
- ii) No academic qualifications are required for nomination of candidates to PWDs committees.**

7.4 Allocation of Symbols

The Commission shall:

- (a) allocate to each candidate the symbol of his/her political party or organisation in case of a candidate sponsored by a political organization or party;
- (b) allocate to a candidate who is not sponsored by a political party or organization a symbol chosen by him/her.
- (c) A symbol under (b) shall be chosen and assigned from among symbols approved by the Commission for purposes of this election and these are:

				
BALL	BICYCLE	CHAIR	CLOCK	RADIO
				
KETTLE	CUP	POT	SAUCE PAN	TABLE

N.B. Independent candidates must ensure that they have selected and have been allocated symbols before leaving the nomination venue. This will be done by the candidate signing against the selected symbol on the Nomination Control Form

7.5 Schedule for Nomination of Candidates at Parish/Ward, Sub-County/Town/Municipal Division, Municipality/City Division and District/City/KCCA Levels

- (a) Nomination of candidates for election of Parish/Ward PWD Committees shall be conducted after the Village/Cell PWD Committee elections.
- (b) Nomination of candidates for election of Sub County/Town/Municipal Division and Municipality/City Division PWD Committees shall be conducted after the Parish/Ward PWD Committee elections.
- (c) Nomination of candidates for election of District/City/KCCA PWD shall be conducted after the Sub County/Town/Municipal Division elections.

8.0 Withdrawal of Candidates

- (a) A candidate may withdraw his/her candidature at any time before polling day by a written notice addressed to the Returning Officer and signed by the candidate, witnessed by two registered members of the respective college.
- (b) Where a candidate is sponsored by a political party, the withdrawal shall be endorsed by the Political Party.

9.0 Campaigns

The Electoral Commission shall publish in the Gazette the campaign period for candidates seeking to be elected to respective Councils and Committees for PWDs.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mugenyi Simon', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Justice Byabakama Mugenyi Simon
CHAIRPERSON, ELECTORAL COMMISSION