ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION AFTER THE PRESS CONFERENCE HELD ON

04.07.2010 AT 14:30 AT THE NEC'S HEADQUARTERS

On 4 July 2010 at 2:30 p.m. at the headquarters of the National Electoral Commission, the last press conference concerning the second round of Presidential Election was held.

The following participated in the conference:

NEC's Deputy Chair	Jan Kacprzak		

NEC's Member Andrzej Kisielewicz

The NEC's Deputy Chair Judge Jan Kacprzak opened the press conference. Judge Andrzej Kisielewicz provided information on the number of electors registered on electoral lists and the number of electors to whom ballot cards were issued in the run-off ordered for 4 July 2010 by 1.00 p.m. The information is as follows.

I. Aggregate countrywide information

The National Electoral Commission on the basis of information received from 25 498 local electoral commissions out of 25 505 local electoral commissions appointed countrywide provides the following information valid as at 1.00 p.m. on 4 July 2010 r.:

- 1. The number of electors eligible to vote in the election, i.e. number of electors registered on the electoral lists in individual polling stations amounted to 30 167 859.
- 2. 8 032 431 ballot cards were issued to the eligible voters which constitutes 26.63% of the total number of eligible voters.

II. Aggregate information broken down by the cities with the population exceeding 250 thousand:

No.	City	Total no. of polling stations	Number of polling stations submitting the data	Number of voters	Ballot cards issued	% (6:5)	
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Białystok	164	164	225 048	66 819	29.69
2.	Bydgoszcz	205	205	280 553	77 765	27.72
3.	Gdańsk	216	216	355 792	99 328	27.92
4.	Katowice	165	165	244 780	66 036	26.98
5.	Kraków	457	457	579 032	171 183	29.56
6.	Lublin	211	211	271 666	80 313	29.56
7.	Łódź	397	397	579 866	157 064	27.09
8.	Poznań	298	298	425 106	130 493	30.70
9.	Szczecin	200	200	314 368	91 178	29.00
10.	Warszawa	848	848	1 273 076	389 528	30.60
11.	Wrocław	298	298	490 653	139 583	28.45

III. In comparison with the total number of the eligible voters in a particular area, the highest turnout has been noted in the borough (city) of Rewal, Gryfice Borough, Zachodniopomorskie Province, i.e. 64.91%.

Judge Andrzej Kisielewicz advised the journalists that there had been the cases of the Local Electoral Commission non-respecting the certificates authorising the electors to vote which did not fully correspond to the official model. The differences usually included lack of official stamp of the authority issuing the electoral list in the top left-hand corner of the document (i.e. the head stamp of the local authority - city mayor, president or community leader) while the personal stamp of the officer of the authority and the name of the authority were provided (e.g. by authority of the Mayor of the City of...).

The National Electoral Commission further explained that there had been no legal obstacles for the local electoral commission's issuing a ballot card to the elector submitting such a certificate provided that the authenticity of the document was not questioned.

This explanation of the NEC was intended for all the Local and Regional Electoral Commissions. Judge Jan Kacprzak emphasised that the confusions around the certificates came about after a journalist provocation in Zakopane where one of the members of the media attempted to obtain a ballot card on the basis of Xerox copy of the voting certificate. The case will be dealt with by the prosecution.

NEC's Deputy Chair, Judge Jan Kacprzak informed the journalists of a very high turnout in the health resorts and spas mainly in the coastal areas (such as Szczecin, Międzyzdroje, Kołobrzeg, Ustronie Morskie, Mielno, Rowy, Ustka, etc.) and in the southern (e.g. Iwonicz Zdroj, Polańczyk) and central parts of Poland (e.g. Busko Zdroj, Kraszewo-Czubaki, or Lichen Stary).

Judge Jan Kacprzak also mentioned the cases of violation of the election silence. The placards of the presidential candidates had been torn down, covered or new placards were placed, agitation leaflets and brochures were distributed in mailboxes, or placed behind the windshield wipers and even in one of the churches. There were also more serious incidents, e.g. in Local Electoral Commission no. 201 in Wrocław, a group shouting masked individuals entered the premises of the polling station, yet managed to disappear before the arrival of the police. At Local Electoral Commission, no. 46 headquartered in of the department of the Warsaw Technical University situated at ul. Nowowiejska, tear gas was sprayed. The Commission suspended the vote for 20 minutes. After the room had been aired, the vote was resumed. The break in the activity of the Local Electoral Commission is without influence on the duration of the election silence and shall not result in the extension of the working hours of the polling station.

The Deputy Chair of the NEC, Judge Jan Kacprzak explained one more time that in the opinion of the NEC, it is possible to present the statements encouraging to voting during the election silence, however, the presidential candidates, or members of their electoral committees, or persons generally associated with one of the candidates should refrain from it. All cases of violation of the election silence shall be considered by the relevant law enforcement authorities and subsequently by court.

In response the question concerning the elector queues in front of the polling stations after 8.00 p.m., Judge Jan Kacprzak advised the journalists that the persons outsider the polling station waiting for possibility to cast their ballot in front of the polling station may vote after 8.00 p.m.