

GECOM HOLDS WORKSHOP FOR POLITICAL PARTIES

15.06.2006

A Workshop for Political Parties contesting the 2006 General and Regional Elections was conducted by the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) yesterday (14.06.2006) at the Hotel Tower Limited. The primary purpose of this Workshop was to create awareness among the Political Parties about the requirements of Guyana's electoral system as this relates to contesting the upcoming elections.

At the Workshop, a document titled "ADVISORY FOR CONTESTING PARTIES – GENERAL AND REGIONAL ELECTIONS 2006" was given to the attending representatives of the various Political Parties.

This Advisory is designed for use by the Parties during the conduct of elections for the President, members of the National Assembly (Geographical Constituencies and National Top-Up) and Members of the Regional Democratic Councils (RDCs) in 2006. It is intended to provide an easy guide to contesting Parties, International and Local Observers and other interested stakeholders about the nomination process for the elections.

The Advisory is structured in a manner which allows users to easily follow the steps for the requirements of the List of Candidates to be submitted by Political Parties on Nomination Day, and the procedures associated with examination of the List of Candidates. Information associated with the roles of Party Agents; understanding the processes of how election results are compiled; allocation of seats; and observing the elections is also provided.

The Workshop was facilitated by Mr. Gocool Boodoo, Chief Election Officer and Mr. Albert Henry who dealt with the various aspects of the electoral process included in the Advisory.

Representatives from the following Political Parties participated at the Workshop:-

Alliance For Change, Front For Capital Reform, Good And Green Guyana, Guyana Action Party, Guyana National Congress, Guyana Nationalists Party,

Horizon And Star, Justice For All Party, The Liberal Democrats, National Democratic Front, National Front Alliance, People's Democratic Movement, People's Progressive Party/Civic, People's National Congress Reform, People's Republic Party, Unity Party, The United Force, Working People's Alliance and Rise Organize And Rebuild.

Observing the proceedings at the Workshop were Ambassador Albert Ramdin, Assistant Secretary General of the Organisation of American States (OAS), Ms. Ann Fudge and Mr. Eugene Petty – OAS Long Term Observers, Ms. Allison Sutherland, Commonwealth Long Term Observer, and Mr. Stephen Beale, and Dr. Kwadwo Afari-Gyan Joint International Technical Assessors (JITAs) attached to GECOM.

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