



Statement by the National Elections Authority on Recent Issues Raised by Lawyer Khaled Ali in Relation to the Presidential Elections

Stemming from the National Elections Authority's absolute keenness to completely adhere to the provisions of the Constitution and the law in all its resolutions and procedures in relation to running and monitoring the Presidential elections as well as the Authority's unshakable belief that all Egyptian citizens have the right to be aware of all official facts and figures, and in light of recent statements quoted by Lawyer Khaled Ali in relation to the presidential elections timetable set forth and announced by the National Elections Authority (NEA) on January 8, 2018 and what he described as "rejection" by the NEA to hand him the endorsements he received from all public notaries and real estate registration offices across Egypt, **the NEA finds it is incumbent upon itself to clarify the following:**

First: Article (3) of Law No. 198/2017 of the National Elections Authority stipulates the following:

Item (1): the NEA is officially and exclusively mandated with issuing all resolutions regulating the processes of elections and referendums by virtue of law and according to all internationally- acknowledged rules and regulations.

Item (3) the NEA is to call voters to cast their ballots in elections and referendums and set forth the timetables respectively in accordance with the Constitution. In this vein, Article (140) of Egypt's Constitution states that the procedures for electing the President of the Republic begin at least 120 days before the end of the presidential term. The result is to be announced at least 30 days before the end of term.

According to all the above-mentioned, the NEA asserts that Egypt's Constitution, issued in 2014 after being approved by the Egyptian people in a public referendum has already set a clear timeline for the presidential elections. Being the sole authority mandated with supervising the elections, the NEA issued its resolution No. 2/2018

in line with the provisions of the Constitution, thus abiding by the clear regulatory and legal constitutional deadline.

The NEA materialized its vision to set the timeline of the electoral process so as to guarantee equal chances for all candidates.

As for what has been described by Lawyer Khaled Ali as “rejection” by the (NEA) to hand him the endorsements he received from all public notaries and real estate registration offices across Egypt, the NEA is so keen to clarify the following:

- Paragraph (2) of Article (12) of Law No. 22/2014 on the Regulation of the Presidential Elections states the following “the candidacy application shall be submitted to the NEA, using the form established by and within the period determined by the NEA; the candidacy application must be submitted with the documents specified by the NEA, particularly the forms of endorsement or support of the candidate.

Accordingly and by virtue of the above-mentioned article, law stipulates that the candidate only, or his legal representative, is the one to submit forms of endorsements that he received from citizens endorsing his candidacy to the NEA, thus completing his candidacy documents. The NEA has an automated system that links all public notaries and real estate registration offices that are mandated with issuing forms of endorsements; this automated system only states the numerical enumeration of potential candidates who received endorsements across Egypt as well as the number of citizens who released forms of endorsement. Henceforth, it all depends on the candidate to shoulder the responsibility of submitting his endorsement forms to the NEA.

As NEA is completely abiding by all the procedures it adopts and adhering to all the resolutions it issues, Item (3) of Law No. 2/2018 issued by the NEC as regards the timetable of the presidential elections states that the preliminary list of candidates, together with the number of forms of endorsement or support they received, shall be published in both Al-Ahram and Al-Akhbar newspapers on Wednesday January 31, 2018.