

accordance with the defined procedures;

- election officials are knowledgeable concerning special provisions (if any) which might apply to blind, disabled, and to illiterate and other electors who may need extra assistance;
- to what extent voting by blind, disabled or illiterate voters is a secret vote and whether this group forms a significant percentage of the population;
- on leaving the voting screen, voters have folded their ballots so as to ensure the secrecy of their choice;
- election officials ensure that all ballots cast are deposited in the correct ballot box;
- electors leave the polls in a quiet and orderly manner;
- political party representatives were able to witness and, if necessary, question or challenge any aspect of the voting process; and
- the administration of the polls was such as to create confidence that all electors would be able to cast their votes within the time allotted.

Observers may find it useful to determine the average time it takes a voter to vote from entry to departure. In addition, depending on what time of day the visit takes place, observers may be able to forecast, by determining the maximum number of electors at any poll compared with the number of votes already cast, the time remaining, the number of people waiting, and the average time to process each elector, whether all electors will be able to vote before the official close of the polls. In some cases, where it appears there may be problems in this respect, observers may wish to revisit certain polls.

3. THE CLOSING OF THE POLL

Observers should attempt to attend the closing of a poll at a location where possible problems might be anticipated, such as a remaining queue of electors.

At the close of the polls, observers should determine whether:

- the polls closed at the time provided for by law;
- the closing of the poll was extended due to late opening or other similar circumstances (as provided by law or at the personal discretion of the election official);