

- security is adequate and is the responsibility of the military or the police;
- counting officials are well-trained and fully aware of all the steps required;
- ballot boxes are unsealed in the presence of agents and observers;
- the ballots in each box are totalled separately;
- the total number of ballots in the box are reconciled with the total number of ballot stubs (less spoiled ballots) and with the number of electors who voted (depending on the electoral system);
- any irregularities were noted before mixing the ballots with those of any other boxes and/or starting the count (depending on the electoral system);
- all sorting and counting of ballots was open and clearly visible to agents and observers;
- decisions as to rejected or invalid ballots were consistent, equitable and in accordance with the law;
- the number of invalid ballots was significant enough to suggest a protest vote or a lack of knowledge of how to mark the ballot by the elector;
- party/candidate agents challenged counting or invalid ballot decisions and whether these were dealt with in accordance with the law;
- party/candidate agents and observers were permitted to make or were given copies of the results of the count(s) which they observed;
- the result was announced at the counting site or forwarded to a higher authority for announcement;
- a parallel "quick count" was carried out by observer groups;
- following completion of the count, all balloting materials were secured and guarded; and whether
- balloting materials were sent to another location for recount or storage and if so, were accompanied by agents and/or observers.