

The Role of Regional Election Associations

by

Hon. Resurreccion Z. Borra *Commissioner* Commission on Elections Manila, Philippines

Representing The Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA)



The Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA), founded in 1998, is a regional association of election managing bodies, similar in nature to the ACEEEO.

•Cambodia

•India

•Indonesia

•Kazakhstan

•Kyrgzystan

•Malaysia

•Mongolia

•Nepal

•Papua New Guinea

•the Philippines

•Sri Lanka

•Taiwan

•Tajikistan

Thailand



To provide a non-partisan forum in the Asian Region for the exchange of information among election authorities to discuss ways and means to promote open and transparent elections with the objective of supporting good governance and democracy.





The AAEA was conceived to promote and institutionalize:

- open and transparent elections;
 independent and impartial election authorities;
- the professionalization of Asian election authorities;
- citizen participation in the electoral and civic process;
- information sharing; and
- the development of resources for election-related information and research.



A regional election association, such as the AAEA and the ACEEEO operates to improve the quality of election management in the region through the free flow of information between and among countries and peoples





Support for the Development of Election Technologies



Observation M I fissions ...

... allow comparative studies of various electoral systems and election practices.

For the Observer, the knowledge gained from observation missions enhances the Observer's ability to effectively and efficiently manage elections in his home country.

For the Host, the presence of foreign observers enhances the credibility of the local electoral management body, and provides a valuable source of objective third-party feedback.



Sharing of



Best Practices ...

... enhances the ability of an EMB to respond more quickly and more effectively to problematic situations which may not have been anticipated.

A regional election association, such as the ACEEEO and the AAEA can facilitate the sharing of best practices through the maintenance of a regular forum for such sharing.

This forum may be in the form of an annual conference, or it may be virtual, existing only on the world-wide web.



Support for



the Development of Election Technologies ...

... is crucial for countries with developing democracies and for countries seeking to make the leap to modernization.

A regional election association, such as the ACEEEO and the AAEA can facilitate the development of modernization strategies by helping bring the modernizing EMB and technology proponents together.

This may be through a vendor fair, or through close cooperation with a modernized EMB.



Modernization: Learning from India



India's succesful use of its electronic voting system is doubly significant for the wealth of information that can be drawn from that experience, making it a compelling object of study and emulation



