



Independent Communications Authority of South Africa

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

**NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL PARTY ELECTIONS BROADCASTS AND
POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENTS REGULATIONS, 2024**

<p>1. What are the differences between the PEB (Political Elections Broadcast) and PA (Political Advertisement)?</p>	<p>PEB is broadcast free of charge, with the schedule and length thereof determined by the Authority, whereas PAs are paid for. The Authority does not provide for the schedule and length of PAs.</p>
<p>2. Is there any obligation for Broadcasters to broadcast PEBs?</p>	<p>The Public Broadcaster is mandated to carry PEBs, whilst other broadcasters such while other broadcasters, such as community or commercial, may opt after notifying the Authority. The list of all broadcasters carrying PEB is available on the Authority’s website.</p>
<p>3. What is the required lead time for submitting PEBs to broadcasters before they are broadcast</p>	<p>A political party or independent candidate that intends to broadcast a PEB must submit same to the BSL at least five (5) working days prior to the broadcast thereof.</p>
<p>4. What is the duration for PEB?</p>	<p>PEBs should not be exceed 40 seconds excluding the pre-recorded tail disclaimer.</p>
<p>5. Who is responsible to record and schedule the tail disclaimer?</p>	<p>Broadcasters are required to record and schedule the tail disclaimers for both PAs and PEBs.</p>
<p>6. Where can election broadcast related complaints be lodged?</p>	<p>All election broadcast complaints are to be lodged within the Authority in line with the period stipulated in the regulations.</p>

<p>7. What happens to Political Party/Independent Candidate who fail to submit their PEB material within the prescribed time frame?</p>	<p>The allocated airtime is forfeited and the relevant BSL will utilize the time for the normal broadcasting programming.</p>
<p>8. How does the Authority allocate PEB slots?</p>	<p>The Authority has provided the principles within which PEB are to be allocated as published in the election Regulations.</p>
<p>9. Is the Broadcasting Service Licensee allowed to avail its recordings and/or technical infrastructure to produce the PEB / PA materials of the Political Parties / Independent Candidates?</p>	<p>The Broadcasting Service Licensees can avail its infrastructure to the political party/independent candidate as that will be a commercial agreement between two parties which the Authority does not have jurisdiction over.</p>
<p>10. How do Political parties and Independent Candidates submit PEBs to the Broadcasters.</p>	<p>PEBs can either be submitted physically or electronically to the broadcasters on the details that has been published. Furthermore, the PEBs for both television and radio should adhere to the technical standards that have been published in the election’s regulations.</p>
<p>11. Can a broadcaster edit or alter a PEB when requested to do so by a political Party or Independent Candidate?</p>	<p>A broadcaster, to whom a PEB has been submitted by a political party for broadcast, must not in any way edit or alter the content of the PEB.</p> <p>However, a broadcaster can reject a PEB and request the political party or independent candidate to alter or edit the material.</p>



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12. What is the PEB technical standard for audio and video?

Audio and video recordings must be clearly labelled to indicate the name of the political party or independent candidate and nominated representative. Audio and video recordings must be submitted electronically or physically to the BSL.

VIDEO

HD (High Definition)

- Commercials to comply with the 1920 x 1080i HD Standard in a 16:9 aspect ratio at 25 frames per second
- Digital Audio Reference level is defined as 18dB below the maximum coding value (-18dBFS) as per EBU recommended practice R128.
- Timecode of commercial start is at 10:00:00:00.
- Stereo audio on tracks 1&2, (Any additional audio tracks should not be MUTE but rather be duplicates of track 1&2)
- Fade to silence at commercials end.

File format:

MXF OP-1a (SMPTE 378M), XDCAM HD 422

Video:

Codec: MPEG-2 422P@HL LongGOP

Bit rate mode Constant
Bit rate: 50 Mb/s (CBR)
Resolution: 1920 x 1080
Interlacing: Upper Field First
Display aspect ratio 16:9
Frame rate: 25 fps (50i).

Audio/ Radio

Track 1 (AES1) Stereo Left / Lt
Track 2 (AES1) Stereo Right / Rt
Codec: Uncompressed (PCM)
Sample Rate: 48 kHz,
Sampling Size: 24 bit
Additional tracks: Duplicate tracks 1&2."
MP3 File