



PRESS RELEASE

Judicial COMMISSION: 77.2% APPROVE CONSITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

20 MARCH 2011

CAIRO – The High Judicial Commission (HJC) announced today that amendments to the constitution were approved by 77.2% of voters in yesterday's referendum.

Speaking at a press conference at the State Council to announce the results, the Chairman of the HJC Justice Mohamed Attia said that a total of 18,537,954 voters participated in the referendum for a turnout rate of 41.19%.

Justice Attia added that 14,192,577 voted for and 4,174,187 voted against a package of amendments to the constitution, 77.2% and 22.8% of valid votes respectively.

The HJC is Egypt's all-judge referendum management body.

The amendments whose adoption were announced today will:

- Alter qualifications for the presidency (Article 75);
- Ease nomination in presidential elections (Article 76);
- Require full and direct judicial supervision of all elections and referendums, including the authority to determine the validity of the election of parliamentarians (Articles 76, 88 & 93);
- Reduce the term of the presidency to 4 years, with re-election limited to 1 term (Articles 77);
- Require the president to appoint a vice-president (Article 139);
- Restrict declarations of a state of emergency, and end extra-ordinary counter-terrorism powers (148);
- End extraordinary counter-terrorism powers (Article 179)
- Establish a mechanism for and require a referendum on a new constitution within 1 year from the next parliamentary elections (Article 189 & 189 Repeated); and
- Provide transitional rules for the Shura Council, Egypt's upper house of parliament (Article 189 Repeated 1).

For information on the referendum please visit the High Judicial Commission's website: WWW.REFERENDUM.EG