Electoral System

ZAKARIYYA USMAN BABA YAKUBU

NIMS UNIVERSITY E-mail: zakariyyausman39@gmail.com

Abstract—*Electoral system is a set of rules that determine the outcome of elections and how elections are conducted. Political electoral systems are organized by the central government, while the non-political elections take place in business and non-profit organizations.*

Electoral systems have some certain set of rules that govern the voting aspect and process.

For example, When elections occur,

- 1. Who are those allowed to vote?
- 2. Who is eligible to stand as a candidate,
- *3. How the ballots are marked and cast.*
- 4. How the ballots are counted (electoral method),
- 5. The limits on campaign spending, and other factors that can affect the outcome of the process.

Political electoral systems are defined by constitutions and the electoral laws of the country, and are typically conducted by the electoral commission and can use multiple types of elections for different offices.

Introduction

Electoral system is the Method and rules of counting votes to determine the outcome of elections. Winners may be determined by a plurality that is the majority (more than 50% of the vote), an extraordinary majority (a percentage of the vote greater than 50%). Candidates for public office may be elected directly or indirectly.

- **1. Direct election** in this system the voters cast the votes directly for the person they desire to see elected.
- **2. Indirect elections** In this system the final vote is decided by the electoral body, in this case there is no popular vote.

Electoral System

In many cases of the electoral system, mostly there's issue with the outcome of elections, this is because the electoral process is not followed by due process. That is why we say that the choice of the electoral system is very important for democracy.

In many developed nations of the world, the electoral process has evolved to a new dimension, due to improvement in technology and other easier aspect in other to give a free and fair election.

Electoral system is an important sector in every healthy democracy

The choice of the electoral system is one of the most important decisions for any democracy,

Electoral process in Nigeria

The electoral system in Nigeria has played an important role to ensure a free and fair election for the citizens of Nigeria.

The 2015 general elections in Nigeria have opened a new page for the good governance of the democracy in which Nigeria made history.

The Opposition candidate Muhammadu Buhari won the presidential **election** by more than 2.5 million votes. That has give trust to the electoral system of the country. The people of Nigeria came out to vote a government that failed to perform.

Recently the Nigerian general election of 16 February 2019 was postponed few hours to the election poll, in which the electoral commission gives logistic reasons to such.

There has been pressure from the united state of America to ensure peaceful free and fair elections in order to maintain a good democracy.

The Independent National Election Commission said the move was necessary to consolidate democracy.

The most common malpractice done during the Nigerian election

- Illegal usage of ballot boxes
- Illegal printing of voter's cards
- Results falsification
- Stuffing ballot boxes with fake ballot papers votes
- Manipulations with registration of voters.