

**DIRETTIVA TAL-AWTORITÀ TAX-XANDIR  
DWAR PROGRAMMI U REKLAMI MXANDRA  
MATUL IL-PERIJODU  
13 TA' FRAR SAT-10 TA' MARZU 2012**

BIS-saħħa tas-setgħat mogħtija lilha bl-artikli 15 u 23 tal-Att dwar ix-Xandir, l-Awtorità tax-Xandir qed toħroġ din id-direttiva għall-perijodu 13 ta' Frar sal-10 ta' Marzu 2012.

**Isem u dħul fis-seħħ.**

1. (1) Din id-Direttiva tissejjaħ id-Direttiva tal-Awtorità tax-Xandir dwar Programmi u Reklami mxandra matul il-perijodu 13 ta' Frar sal-10 ta' Marzu, 2012.

(2) Din id-Direttiva tibda sseħħ minn nhar it-Tnejn, 13 ta' Frar, 2012.

**Tifsir.**

2. (1) Għall-għanijiet ta' din id-Direttiva:

"l-Att" ifisser l-Att dwar ix-Xandir;

"l-Awtorità" tfisser l-Awtorità tax-Xandir imwaqqfa bl-artiklu 118 tal-Kostituzzjoni;

"Direttiva" tfisser id-Direttiva tal-Awtorità tax-Xandir dwar Programmi u Reklami mxandra matul il-perijodu 13 ta' Frar sal-10 ta' Marzu, 2012;

"elezzjonijiet" tfisser l-elezzjonijiet għall-kunsilli lokali li se jinżammu nhar is-Sibt, 10 ta' Marzu, 2012;

"kandidat" tfisser kandidat għall-elezzjonijiet tal-10 ta' Marzu, 2012;

"programm" jinkludi *spots* sew jekk ikunu informattivi sew jekk ikunu xort'oħra;

"reklam" tfisser reklam informattiv jew reklam li jkollu kontenut ta' natura politika.

(2) Il-kliem u l-frazzjiet użati f'din id-Direttiva jfissru l-istess bħal dak li ngħatalhom fl-Att.

**BROADCASTING AUTHORITY DIRECTIVE  
ON PROGRAMMES AND ADVERTISEMENTS BROADCAST  
DURING THE PERIOD  
13TH FEBRUARY TO 10TH MARCH 2012**

IN exercise of the powers conferred by articles 15 and 23 of the Broadcasting Act, the Broadcasting Authority is issuing the following directive for the period 13<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

**Citation and entry into force.**

1. (1) The title of this Directive is the Broadcasting Authority Directive on Programmes and Advertisements broadcast during the period 13<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

(2) This Directive shall come into force on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

**Interpretation.**

2. (1) For the purposes of this Directive:

"the Act" means the Broadcasting Act;

"Authority" means the Broadcasting Authority established by article 118 of the Constitution;

"Directive" means the Broadcasting Authority Directive on Programmes and Advertisements broadcast during the period 13<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012;

"elections" means the local council elections to be held on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2012;

"candidate" means a candidate for the elections of 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012;

"programme" includes spots whether informative or otherwise;

"advertisement" means an advertisement of an informative nature or an advertisement which contains political content.

(2) Words and phrases used in this Directive shall have the same meaning as is assigned to them in the Act.



### Għoti ta' Skedi ta' Programmi lill-Awtorità.

3. (1) Mhux aktar tard minn nofsinhar ta' nhar it-Tnejn, 13 ta' Frar, 2012, kull stazzjon tax-xandir irid jagħti lill-Awtorità skeda dettaljata tal-programmi u reklami biex tiġi approvata mill-Awtorità. Din l-iskeda trid tkopri l-perijodu 13 ta' Frar sal-10 ta' Marzu, 2012. Fejn l-istazzjon ikun bi ħsiebu li jxandar programmi ta' ġrajjet kurrenti, programmi ta' diskussjoni, programmi ta' ġurnalizmu investigattiv, programmi oħra li jinkludu mistiedna sabieħ jagħtu opinjonijiet dwar ġrajjet kurrenti u programmi ta' natura simili għal dawn waqt il-perijodu hawn fuq imsemmi, irid jibgħat lill-Awtorità s-suġġett ta' dak il-programm u dettalji dwar il-prezentatur, parteċipanti u l-produttur biex l-Awtorità tkun tista' tagħti l-approvazzjoni tagħha. L-istess informazzjoni trid tintbagħat għall-programmi ta' ġeneri oħra li fihom jipparteċipaw kandidati.

(2) Wara li l-Awtorità tapprova din l-iskeda ta' programmi, l-istazzjon tax-xandir ma jkunx jista' jagħmel bidliet fl-iskeda msemmija ħlief eċċezzjonalment, wara li jitlob għal dan bil-kitba u jagħti d-dettalji kollha meħtieġa u bl-approvazzjoni tal-Awtorità. Din it-talba għal tibdil fl-iskeda ta' programmi trid tasal għand l-Awtorità mhux anqas minn erbat ijiem utli qabel id-data tal-bidla proposta u trid issir skont il-formola annessa. L-Awtorità mhux fi ħsiebha tapprova tibdil għall-perijodu 5 ta' Marzu sat-8 ta' Marzu, 2012.

(3) Bla preġudizzju għas-subartikolu (7) ta' dan l-artikolu, l-ebda programm jew reklam b'xejra politika ma jista' jixxandar minn stazzjon tax-xandir qabel ma tingħata l-approvazzjoni msemmija fil-paragrafi (1) u (2) ta' dan l-artiklu sakemm dan ma jkunx parti minn skema approvata mill-Awtorità. Sakemm tiġi approvata l-bidla mitluba fl-iskeda ta' programmi mill-Awtorità, l-istazzjon tax-xandir m'għandux ixandar materjal promozzjonali dwar il-programmi li qed jiġu proposti li jixxandru mill-istazzjon in kwistjoni. L-ebda programm jew reklam ma jista' jinkoraġġixxi lill-poplu li jivvota b'mod partikolari. Għandha tingħata attenzjoni biex jiġi żgurat illi l-programmi kollha u r-reklamar kollu ma jkunx fihom materjal li jista' jiġi interpretat li qed jiffavorixxi jew li qed jagħti *exposure* mhux f'waqtu lil xi partit politiku jew kandidat jew li jista' raġonevolment jitqies li huwa mmirat lejn għan politiku.

(4) Kull programm li jkollu x'jaqsam ma' xi materja ta' kontroversja politika jew industrijali jew li jirreferi għall-*policy* pubblika kurrenti li jixxandar matul il-perijodu 13 ta' Frar sal-10 ta' Marzu 2012 jrid ikun bilanċjat. Fi programmi hekk jeħtieġ li jiddaħħlu l-opinjonijiet kollha differenti dwar is-suġġett li jkun qed jiġi diskuss u għalhekk

### Provision of Programme Schedules to the Authority.

3.(1) Not later than noon of Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012, each broadcasting station shall provide the Authority with a detailed schedule of programmes and advertisements for the Authority's approval. This schedule shall cover the period 13<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012. Where the broadcasting station intends to produce current affairs programmes, discussion programmes, investigative journalism programmes, other programmes which include guests who air opinions on current affairs and programmes of a similar nature during the aforesaid period, it shall forward the subject of that programme and details of the presenter, participants and producer to the Authority for its approval. The said information shall be submitted for other programme genres in which candidates participate.

(2) Following the Authority's approval of this programme schedule, no changes may be made by a broadcasting station to the said schedule. Exceptionally, with the prior approval of the Authority and following a written detailed request by a broadcasting station to that effect, a broadcasting station may request the Authority's approval to change its programme schedule. Such request must reach the Authority by not later than four working days prior to the date of the proposed change and shall be drawn up in terms of the attached form. The Authority will not approve changes for the period 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

(3) Without prejudice to subarticle (7) of this article, until such approval as mentioned in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this article is obtained, no programme or advertisement with a political content may be broadcast by a broadcasting station unless it is within a scheme approved by the Authority. A broadcasting station shall not air any promotional material concerning programmes which the broadcasting station in question intends to air unless the Authority approves the requested change in the programme schedule. Nor may any such programme or advertisement encourage people to vote in a particular way. Care should be taken to ensure that all programmes and all advertisements are free of material which could be interpreted as favouring or giving undue exposure to any political party or candidate or which might be reasonably considered as being directed towards a political end.

(4) All programmes which concern any aspect of a political or an industrial controversy or which refer to current public policy which are broadcast with effect from 11<sup>th</sup> February to 8<sup>th</sup> March 2008 have to be balanced. This requires that in such programmes all diverse opinions on the subject under consideration have to be included and,



għandhom jipparteċipaw f'dawn il-programmi rappreżentanti tal-Partit Nazzjonalista, tal-Partit Laburista, u tal-Alternattiva Demokratika.

(5) Fil-każ tas-subartikolu (4) t'hawn fuq, l-Awtorità tista' tapprova skedi ta' programmi proposti minn stazzjonijiet tax-xandir wara li tkun sodisfatta li dan jaqbel ma' dak li hemm provdut f'artiklu 119 tal-Kostituzzjoni. L-Awtorità għandha tara, b'mod partikolari li, fejn għandu x'jaqsam mal-għażla tas-sugġetti u ta' dawk li jkunu ser jieħdu sehem, l-istazzjonijiet jimxu ma' dak li hemm maħsub fis-sub-artiklu msemmi.

(6) Għall-fini ta' din id-direttiva "natura politika" jew "xejra politika" jfissru opinjoni kontroversjali marbuta fil-qofol tagħha mas-soċjetà moderna li tkun fil-qalba ta' dibattitu politiku u jinkludi wkoll il-kampanja għall-elezzjonijiet għall-kunsilli lokali.

(7) Waqt li l-Awtorità, b'konformità mal-liġi, tinsisti fuq iż-żamma ta' bilanċ u l-imparzjalità, l-Awtorità tifhem ukoll li jkun prattiku u fl-istess ħin konformi mal-liġi li l-kontenut tal-programmi skont l-iskedi sottomessi lilha fuq l-istazzjonijiet politiċi jitqies fid-dawl tad-dispożizzjoni fakoltattiva mogħtija lill-Awtorità skont l-artikolu 13(2) tal-Att dwar ix-Xandir. Dan t'hawn fuq m'għandux jiġi interpretat bħala li l-istazzjonijiet tal-partiti politiċi mhumiex marbuta li josservaw il-liġi. Għall-fini ta' dan is-sub-artikolu, l-istazzjonijiet tal-partiti politiċi huma: *One Radio, Radio 101, One u NET Television*.

#### **Applikazzjoni tal-Kodiċi għall-Investigazzjoni u d-Determinazzjoni tal-Ilmenti.**

4. Dawn it-tibdiliet għandhom japplikaw matul il-perijodu 13 ta' Frar sal-10 ta' Marzu 2012 għall-Kodiċi għall-Investigazzjoni u d-Determinazzjoni tal-Ilmenti:

- (i) l-ilmenti jkunu indirizzati lill-Awtorità u mhux lill-istazzjonijiet tax-xandir;
- (ii) l-Awtorità tista' titlob spjega mill-istazzjon tax-xandir dwar l-ilment imsemmi skont kemm t'foss hi li din tkun meħtieġa għall-każ;
- (iii) kull spjega jew tagħrif bħal dan irid jingħata lill-Awtorità mill-istazzjon tax-xandir mhux aktar tard minn nofsinhar tal-għada jew qabel, skont kif tordna l-Awtorità.

therefore, representatives of the Nationalist Party, the Malta Labour Party, and Alternattiva Demokratika shall participate in these programmes.

(5) In the case of sub-article (4) above, the Authority may approve programme schedules proposed by broadcasting stations after it is satisfied that the provisions of article 119 of the Constitution will be complied with. The Authority shall, in particular, ensure compliance with the said provision in so far as choice of subjects and participants are concerned.

(6) For the purposes of this directive "political nature" or "political content" mean a controversial opinion pertaining to modern society in general which lies at the heart of a political debate and includes campaigning for the local councils elections.

(7) Whilst the Authority, in accordance with the law, insists on safeguarding balance and impartiality, it also recognises that it would be practical and at the same time in conformity with the law that the programme content in terms of the schedules submitted to it by the political stations is considered in the light of the optional provision which may be exercised by the Authority in terms of article 13(2) of the Broadcasting Act. The above shall not be interpreted that political stations are not bound to observe the provisions of the law. For the purposes of this sub-article, the political stations are Super 1 Radio, Radio 101, One and NET Television.

#### **Application of the Code for the Investigation and Determination of Complaints.**

4. The following modifications shall apply with effect from 13<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012 to the Code for the Investigation and Determination of Complaints:

- (i) complaints shall be addressed directly to the Authority and not to broadcasting stations;
- (ii) in so far as the Authority may deem necessary, the Authority may require an explanation from the broadcasting station mentioned in the said complaint;
- (iii) any information or explanation required by the Authority as aforesaid shall be provided to the Authority by the broadcasting station not later than noon of the following day or earlier as the Authority may direct.



**Regolamenti li l-istazzjonijiet tax-xandir iridu jobdu matul il-gurnata qabel l-elezzjonijiet u dakinhar tal-votazzjoni.**

5. (1) Matul il-jum qabel l-elezzjonijiet u dakinhar tal-votazzjoni (minn issa 'l quddiem magħruf bħala "il-kampanja ta' żmien is-skiet"), ma jista' jsir ebda xorta ta' xandir li b'xi mod jista' jinfluwenza l-votanti.

(2) Bla ebda preġudizzju għas-sub-artiklu (1) ta' dan l-artiklu, matul il-kampanja ta' żmien is-skiet ser jidhru fis-seħh dawn ir-regolamenti:

(i) għandhom jiġu evitati sitwazzjonijiet minn stazzjonijiet tax-xandir li matul il-perijodu ta' żmien is-skiet ikunu trasmessi programmi li jistgħu raġonevolment jiġu interpretati li qed jixxandru bil-ħsieb li jinfluwenzaw il-votanti;

(ii) trid tieqaf kull xorta ta' preżentazzjoni mix-xandir tal-partiti politiċi, kandidati u ta' movimenti u organizzazzjonijiet oħra li għandha x'taqsam mal-elezzjonijiet;

(iii) l-istazzjonijiet tax-xandir ma jxandrux tagħrif, dikjarazzjonijiet, stqarrijiet tal-Gvern lill-istampa u lix-xandir, kif ukoll dawk tal-Oppożizzjoni, tal-kandidati, tal-politiċi, tal-partiti politiċi u ta' organizzazzjonijiet u movimenti li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-elezzjonijiet, u kull xorta ta' xandir ieħor li bil-miftuħ jew bil-moħbi għandu natura politika, għandu kontenut politiku jew li jista' b'xi mod jinfluwenza d-deċiżjoni tal-votanti. Lanqas ma jistgħu jixxandru reklami informattivi mtellgħa minn entitajiet pubbliċi, inkluż *Public Service Announcements*, sakemm dawn ma jkunux ta' interess ġenerali u ta' natura urġenti;

(iv) dan li ġej ma jistax isir:

- propaganda,
- tagħrif li għandu x'jaqsam mal-kampanja elettoral, u
- avvizi maħsuba għall-preżentazzjoni ta' programmi, *logos*, *mottos* u simboli ta' partit politiku u ta' kandidat;

(v) ma tistax issir kull xorta ta' preżentazzjoni fix-xandir li b'xi mod hi dwar il-kampanja elettoral (bħalma huma preżentazzjonijiet, propaganda politika, programmi ta' diskussjoni, intervisti, eċċ);

(vi) fir-rapporti dwar il-votazzjoni u attivitajiet oħra dwar l-elezzjonijiet, l-istazzjonijiet jifhallow ixandru bil-prudenza kollha tagħrif dwar fatti li jkollhom valur ta' aħbar evidenti bħal ksur li seta' sar fil-

**Regulations to be observed by broadcasting stations during the day preceding the elections and on the actual day of polling.**

5. (1) During the day preceding the elections and on the actual day of polling during the elections (hereinafter referred to as "the campaign silence period"), all forms of broadcasting which might influence voters shall be prohibited.

(2) Without prejudice to sub-article (1) of this article, during the campaign silence period the following rules shall apply:

(i) broadcasting stations shall avoid a situation where during the silence period they broadcast programmes which could be reasonably interpreted that they are broadcasting with a view to influence voters;

(ii) all forms of presentation on the broadcasting media of political parties, candidates and other movements and organizations involved in the elections shall cease;

(iii) broadcasting stations shall not broadcast information, statements, press and media releases issued by the Government, the Opposition, candidates, politicians, political parties and other movements and organisations involved in the elections, and other forms of broadcasting which are, openly or in a covert manner, of a political nature, have political content or which may influence the decisions of the voters. Nor may informative advertisements commissioned by public entities, including public service announcements be broadcast unless these are of public interest and of an urgent nature;

(iv) the following shall be prohibited:

- agitation,
- information related to an electoral campaign, and
- announcements designed for presentation of programmes, logos, mottos and symbols of a political party and a candidate;

(v) all forms of media presentations concerning the electoral campaign (such as free presentations, political propaganda, discussion programmes, interviews, etc.) shall be prohibited;

(vi) it shall be allowed in the reporting on the voting and the other electoral activities for broadcasting stations to prudently report on facts of news value the possible violations of the voting



proċeduri tal-votazzjoni kif ukoll dwar xi inċidenti li jinqalgħu fil-post tal-votazzjoni jew barra u wkoll dikjarazzjonijiet uffiċjali dwar kif inhi sejra l-votazzjoni hekk kif dawn joħorġu minn ħin għall-ieħor mill-Kummissjoni Elettorali, basta li ma tkunx aħbar maħruġa mill-partiti politiċi jew mill-kandidati nfushom jew aħbar ipprovokata jew ġenerata mill-partiti politiċi jew mill-kandidati għall-gwadann politiku.

(vii) Stazzjonijiet ma jistgħux ixandru stejjer li jkunu qed jidhru fuq siti elettronici li jmorru kontra r-regolamenti tal-jumejn tas-silenzju, anki jekk l-istess siti ikunu operati mill-partiti politiċi.

(3) Jistgħu jixxandru dikjarazzjonijiet u stqarrijiet dwar xi inċidenti msemmija f'paragrafu (vi) ta' sub-artiklu (2) ta' dan l-artiklu li joħorġu matul il-kampanja ta' żmien is-skiet meta jkunu għalqu l-postijiet kollha tal-votazzjoni.

(4) Għall-għan ta' dan l-artiklu:-

"propaganda" favur jew kontra tfisser kull xorta ta' preżentazzjoni ta' xandir li għandha x'taqsam b'xi mod mal-kampanja elettorali. Propaganda tinkludi wkoll kull preżentazzjoni fuq il-mezzi kollha tax-xandir ta' kandidati, simboli, sinjali jew għeliehem oħra u materjal propagandistiku ta' partiti politiċi u movimenti u organizzazzjonijiet li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-elezzjonijiet;

"tagħrif li għandu x'jaqsam ma' kampanja elettorali" tfisser ġabriet ta' aħbarijiet u programmi oħra li jagħtu:

- tagħrif dwar kull xorta ta' ħidma ta' propaganda li saret qabel ma waslet biex tibda l-kampanja ta' żmien is-skiet;
- dikjarazzjonijiet u stqarrijiet tal-partiti politiċi, kandidati u organizzazzjonijiet u movimenti li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-elezzjonijiet;
- tagħrif dwar x'jagħmlu dawk li għandhom funzjoni fl-uffiċji tal-Gvern u l-uffiċjali li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-kampanja tal-elezzjonijiet (ftuħ ta' bini ġdid u affarrijiet tal-infrastruttura, varar ta' proġetti, riżultati u kisbiet, jew bħala rapporti fxandiriet regolari jew speċjali, eċċ.);

"avviżi maħsuba biex jidhru fi programmi,

procedures and on eventual incidents inside or out of the polling booths, and official statements on the voting process issued from time to time by the Electoral Commission provided that it shall not consist of a news item released by the political parties or by candidates or a news item provoked or brought about by political parties or candidates for political mileage.

(vii) Stations cannot broadcast any items featured on any electronic news portals that are in breach of the dispositions imposed for the days of silence, even if such portals are owned by political parties.

(3) Statements and releases on the eventual incidents mentioned in paragraph (vi) of sub-article (2) of this article which are issued during the campaign silence period may only be broadcast after all the polling booths have closed.

(4) For the purposes of this article:-

"agitation" for and against means all forms of media presentation related in any way to the electoral campaign. Agitation also includes all other on-air presentations of candidates, symbols, signs and other propaganda material of political parties and other organizations involved in the elections;

"information related to an electoral campaign" means news reports and other programmes which present:

- information on any form of campaign activities that took place before the deadline for the start of the campaign silence period;
- statements and releases of political parties, candidates and other organisations and movements involved in the elections;
- information on the activities of the holders of Government offices and officials related to the electoral campaign (inauguration of new buildings and infrastructure projects, promotion of projects, results and achievements, either in the form of reports in regular or special broadcasts, etc.);

"announcements designed for presentation of



logos, mottos u simboli/għeliehem ta' partij politiku, kandidat, moviment u organizzazzjoni oħra li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-elezzjonijiet" tfisser kull xorta ta' propaganda politika (avviżi, stqarrijiet, reklamar politiku, rekordings jew siltiet minn xi rekordings ta' ġemgħat ta' nies u dehriet oħra fil-pubbliku ta' dawk li qed jiefdu sehem fil-kampanja tal-elezzjonijiet).

(5) Mingħajr preġudizzju għal dak li jingħad fis-subartikoli preċedenti ta' dan l-artikolu, l-ebda stazzjon m'għandu jxandar materjal dwar l-elezzjonijiet matul il-perijodu ta' żmien is-skiet. Dan japplika għal kull programm tat-televiżjoni u radju, inkluż l-aħbarijiet.

(6) F'jum il-votazzjoni hu permess li jixxandar dan li ġej:

- i) l-andament tal-votazzjoni, jiġifieri informazzjoni dwar kemm ivvutaw nies u informazzjoni dwar x'ikun qed jiġri fil-postijiet tal-votazzjoni;
- ii) kull meta jissemmew il-kandidati tal-elezzjonijiet, l-istazzjonijiet tal-partiti politiċi (NET TV, Radio 101, One Radio, u One) għandhom isemmu l-ewwel il-kandidati tal-partit rispettiv tagħhom, imbagħad jissemmew il-kumplement tal-kandidati skont il-polza tal-vot; u l-istazzjonijiet l-oħra kollha li jagħzlu li jsemmu l-kandidati tal-elezzjonijiet għandhom isemmuhom fl-ordni li jidhru fih fil-polza tal-vot;
- iii) jistgħu jidhru biss fuq l-istazzjonijiet ir-rappreżentanti tal-partiti segwenti: PL - Mexxej u Żewġ Deputati Mexxejja; PN - Kap, Viċi Kap u Segretarju Ġenerali; AD - Chairperson u Deputat Chairperson. Dawn iridu jidhru biss diegħlin jivvutaw u jixhtu l-vot. Bl-ebda mod m'għandhom jixxandru kummenti tagħhom fuq il-mezzi tax-xandir sa l-għeluq tal-votazzjoni. Dan jinkludi wkoll kull kumment li l-uffiċjali tal-partiti jistgħu jagħmlu quddiem il-post tal-votazzjoni hekk kif ikunu għadhom kemm ivvutaw;
- iv) l-istazzjonijiet ma jistgħu jwasslu l-ebda messaġġ li jista' jwassal biex jinfluwenza l-votant. Barra minn hekk m'għandhom l-anqas iħegġu lin-nies biex imorru jivvutaw jew biex ma jmorrux jivvutaw.

### **Stharriġ tal-Opinjoni Pubblika.**

6. L-Awtorità tirreferi wkoll għal Ftigijiet dwar Standards u Prattika tal-2007 dwar id-Diversi Tipi ta' Stharriġ tal-Opinjoni Pubblika Mxandra fuq is-

programmes, logos, mottos and symbols of a political party, candidate and other movements or organizations involved in the elections" means all forms of political propaganda (announcements, releases, political advertisements, recordings or segments of recordings of rallies and other public appearances of the participants in the electoral campaign).

(5) Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions of this article, no station may broadcast any material concerning the elections during the silent period. This applies to all television and radio programmes, including news bulletins.

(6) On polling day it is permissible to broadcast only the following:

- i) the process of voting, that is, information about the number of persons who have cast their vote and information as to what is happening in the polling booths;
- ii) whenever election candidates are mentioned, stations owned by the political parties (NET TV, Radio 101, One Radio and One) shall first mention the candidates of their respective party and then they shall mention the rest of the candidates as they feature on the ballot paper; and all the other stations which opt to refer to election candidates shall mention them in the order in which they appear on the ballot paper;
- iii) only the following party representatives may appear on broadcasting stations: PL – Leader and both Deputy Leaders; PN – Leader, Deputy Leader and Secretary General; and Alternattiva Demokratika – Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson. They should only be shown entering the polling booths and casting their vote. No comments of such persons may be broadcast on the broadcasting media up till the closure of the polling stations. This also includes any comment by party officials near the polling station as soon as they would have voted;
- iv) stations cannot air any message intended to influence voters. Moreover, they shall not encourage people to vote or not to vote.

### **Public Opinion Polls.**

6. The Authority refers to the Requirements as to Standards and Practice Applicable to Various Types of Polls Broadcast on Radio and Television



Servizzi ta' Radju u Televiżjoni li għandhom dispożizzjonijiet relatati mal-elezzjonijiet. Kopja ta' dawn il-Fteggijiet hija mehmuża ma' din id-Direttiva. Ma jista' jsir l-ebda xandir ta' opinjoni pubblika dwar l-elezzjonijiet mit-Tnejn 5 ta' Marzu 2012 sal-għeluq tal-votazzjoni tas-Sibt 10 ta' Marzu 2012.

Services which contain provisions relating to elections. A copy of these Requirements is attached to this Directive. Opinion polls regarding the elections may not be broadcast as from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2012 until closure of voting on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

#### **Għoti ta' Skeda għall-Perijodu ta' Żmien is-Skiet.**

7. (1) Mhux aktar tard minn nofsinhar ta' nhar it-Tnejn, 27 ta' Frar 2012, kull stazzjon tax-xandir irid jagħti lill-Awtorità skeda dettaljata tal-programmi u reklami għal matul il-perijodu ta' żmien is-skiet biex tiġi approvata mill-Awtorità. Suġġett għal dak li jingħad fis-subartikolu (6) tal-artikolu 5 ta' din id-Direttiva, f'dan il-perijodu m'għandhomx jixxandru programmi ta' ġrajjet kurrenti, programmi ta' diskussjoni, programmi ta' ġurnalizmu investigattiv, u programmi ta' natura simili għal dawn ħlief dawk li jiġu approvati mill-Awtorità għal xandir f'dawn il-jumejn.

(2) Wara li l-Awtorità tirċievi dawn l-iskedi hija tista', jekk tħoss il-ħtieġa, iżzomm laqgħa mal-partiti politiċi biex tiżgura li l-iskedi tal-istazzjonijiet politiċi li jkunu ġew approvati mill-Awtorità jiġu rigorożament osservati mill-istazzjonijiet politiċi.

**8 ta' Frar 2012**

#### **Provision of Programme Schedule during the Silence Period.**

7. (1) Not later than noon of Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2012, all broadcasting stations shall forward to the Authority a detailed schedule of programmes and advertisements to be broadcast during the silence period so that it may be approved by the Authority. Subject to the provisions of subarticle (6) of article 5 of this Directive, no current affairs programmes, discussion programmes, investigative journalism programmes or programmes of a similar nature may be broadcast except for those programmes which may be approved by the Authority to be aired during these two days.

(2) After the Authority receives these schedules, the Authority may, should it so require, hold a meeting with political parties in order to ensure that the programme schedules of political stations which had been approved by the Authority are rigorously observed by political stations.

**8th February 2012**



**[Artikolu 3(2)]**

**Formola ta' Applikazzjoni minn Stazzjon tax-Xandir għall-approvazzjoni tal-Awtorità tax-Xandir għal tibdil fl-iskeda ta' programmi għall-perjodu 13 ta' Frar sal-10 ta' Marzu 2012**  
**Broadcasting Station's application form for the Broadcasting Authority's approval for a change to a programme schedule during the period 13th February to 10th March 2012**

Isem tal-istazzjon tax-xandir <i>Name of Broadcasting Station</i>
Isem tal-programm li se jsir tibdil dwaru <i>Name of Programme which is proposed to be changed</i>
Data u ħin tat-trasmissjoni tal-programm originali <i>Date and Time of Original Programme which is proposed to be changed</i>
Data u ħin tat-trasmissjoni tal-programm propost <i>Date and Time of Proposed Programme</i>
Raġuni dettaljata għat-tibdil <i>Detailed reason for change</i>
Isem tal-prezentatur tal-programm propost <i>Name of Presenter of Proposed Programme</i>
Isem tal-partecipanti tal-programm propost <i>Name of Participants of Proposed Programme</i>
Suġġett tal-programm propost <i>Subject of Proposed Programme</i>
Format tal-programm propost <i>Format of Proposed Programme</i>
Tqassim fi slots tal-programm propost <i>Breakdown of Proposed Programme by Slots</i>

Jien hawn taft niddikjara li l-istazzjon tax-xandir hawn fuq imsemmi qed jitlob tibdil fl-iskeda tal-programmi tiegħu skont id-dettalji t'hawn fuq.

*I hereunder declare that the above mentioned broadcasting station is requesting a change in its programme schedule in terms of the above details.*

B'dan qed ngħarraf lill-Awtorità bit-talba tiegħi għal tali tibdil fis-suġġett ta' programm sebat ijiem utli qabel id-data li fiha huwa propost li jsir it-tibdil. B'sebat ijiem utli qed nifhem li s-Sibtijiet, F'dud, festi pubbliċi u festi nazzjonali mhumiex inkluzi.

*By this application I am informing the Authority of my request for programme subject change seven working days before the date of intended change. By seven working days I understand that Saturdays, Sundays and public and national holidays are not included.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Firma tač-Chairman ta l-Istazzjon tax-Xandir/Signature of Broadcasting Station's Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Data/Date

