## ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION AFTER THE PRESS CONFERENCE HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2010 AT 9:00 A.M. CET AT THE NEC'S HEADQUARTERS

On 21<sup>st</sup> November July 2010 at 9:00 a.m. CET at the headquarters of the National Electoral Commission, the first press conference on the day of elections for municipal councils, communal councils and regional assemblies, as well as for the positions of reeves, mayors and presidents of cities was held.

Conference participants:

Chairperson of NEC: Stefan Jaworski Member of NEC: Włodzimierz Ryms

Member of NEC: Kazimierz Czaplicki – Head of the National Electoral Office.

The Chairperson of NEC, Judge Stefan Jaworski informed the journalists that the voting had started as planned at 8.00 a.m. CET. So far, there have been no interruptions in the voting, no incidents have been reported.

Member of the National Electoral Commission, Judge Włodzimierz Ryms, provided information about several dozen of minor incidents related to violation of election silence, including tearing off or sticking campaign posters, distribution of leaflets, destroying of campaign placards. Such occurrences constitute misdemeanors, and perpetrators (as a rule, being under the influence of alcohol) were, in majority of cases, found and fined. In the rest of cases, the matters are being solved and actions are pending. In comparison to previous elections, the scale of violations is similar and does not diverge from the average.

Judge Włodzimierz Ryms commented on two events constituting violations. The first occurred on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2010 - chairperson of one of electoral commissions contravened provisions of the "Act on counteracting drug addiction". Competent municipal electoral commission passed a resolution excluding the person from composition of the said commission. The second event related to illegal appearance of one ballot paper with list of candidates for the position of reeve of a commune. Probably, the ballot paper was illegally taken out from the printing house, where the computer hard disc has already been secured in order to explain the circumstances that allowed the card to appear in a public place.

The Chairperson of NEC, Judge Stefan Jaworski reminded the journalists that aggregate results of the elections will most likely be announced on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November, in the evening or on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> November. The time of announcing election results depends on efficiency of work of commissions on three levels: municipal, county and provincial. Only on that basis is the National Electoral Commission able to announce aggregate results.

Next press conference will take place at the NEC's headquarters at 11.30 a.m. CET, during which information about the turnout and course of voting until 10.00 a.m. CET will be presented.