COUNT REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENTARY ON COUNT RULES

Update No. 5 dated 8 January, 2002

New count summary screen

1. Introduction

At present, the system blanks out when the count is completed without showing any count details and it is a tedious task to find out the main features of the count(particularly as the Result Sheet screen at the moment is not listing the names of the elected candidates and the printed version is not listing them at all!). To remedy this, outlined below are the features of a screen summarising the count that should be displayed automatically when the count is completed. This screen should be printable and should also be accessible from the count menu once the count has been concluded.

2. Details of screen

The label at the top of the screen should specify the type of screen (viz. "Count Summary"), the election type, constituency name, the poll date, the number of seats to be filled and the following information (which could be copied from the revised First Count Statement – see paragraph 2 of DoELG comments No. 6 dated 29 November 2001 relating to Edenderry TC 1999):

♦ Total number of first preference votes cast - **[total number of first preferences] votes**,

♦ Quota for election - [**quota] votes**

♦ Vote threshold for recoupment of election expenses – **[vote threshold] votes**

Next on the screen should be the list of the names (and abbreviated party affiliations (including "Non-Party"), if any) of elected candidates, which can be copied from the Result Sheet. Copying this list will ensure that the elected candidates are listed in order of election.

A table should follow, in the following format:

Count no.	Action taken in count	Elected in/after count	Surplus size or Number of votes	Excluded after count
1	Calculation of each candidate's first preference votes, etc	Doyle, W. (F.F.)[1] Ryall, G. (Lab.)	Surplus of N vote(s) Surplus of N-4 vote(s)	
2	Distribution of surplus of W Doyle (FF)			O'Toole, C. (F.G.)[2] who had N votes. Bailey, B. who had N-70 votes.
3, 4, etc.				
[Last]	Distribution of all votes of O'Toole, B. (F.G.) and Bailey, B.	Purdue, S (G.P.) Glennon, F.[3] Starr, W. (F.G.)	Surplus of N vote(s) N votes N-40 votes	Ferry, N. (F.F.) who had N votes

There should be two buttons at the bottom of the screen, one labelled "Result Sheet" and other labelled "Declaration of Result" which, when pressed, would generate the screens concerned.

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[1] Elected candidates should be listed in <u>descending</u> order of the size of their surpluses. Candidates with surpluses of equal size should be listed in ballot paper order, followed by candidates elected with no surplus who should also be listed in ballot paper order.

[2] Excluded candidates should be listed in <u>ascending</u> order of the size of their votes, beginning with candidates with zero votes. Candidates with equal votes (including zero votes) should be listed in ballot paper order.

[3] Candidates elected without reaching the quota should be listed below any candidates elected with either a surplus or no surplus. Candidates elected without reaching the quota should be listed in <u>descending</u> order of their votes – any such candidates elected with equal votes should be listed in ballot paper order.