

Electoral Reforms

Proposals

Electoral Reforms: a practical approach to selected measures

Administrative Steps

- 1 To install a neutral Government Caretaker once Parliament is dissolved.
- 2 Mandating the use of indelible ink.
- 3 Reform of the postal ballot system.
- 4 Extended campaign period.

Media Access

- 5 Equal and fair access to be given to all candidates through all public media.

Legislative Reforms

- 6 Auditing of Political Parties by independent auditors on election expenses.
- 7 Public access to RoS records on audited finances of political parties.
- 8 State funding to be limited according to size/geography/population

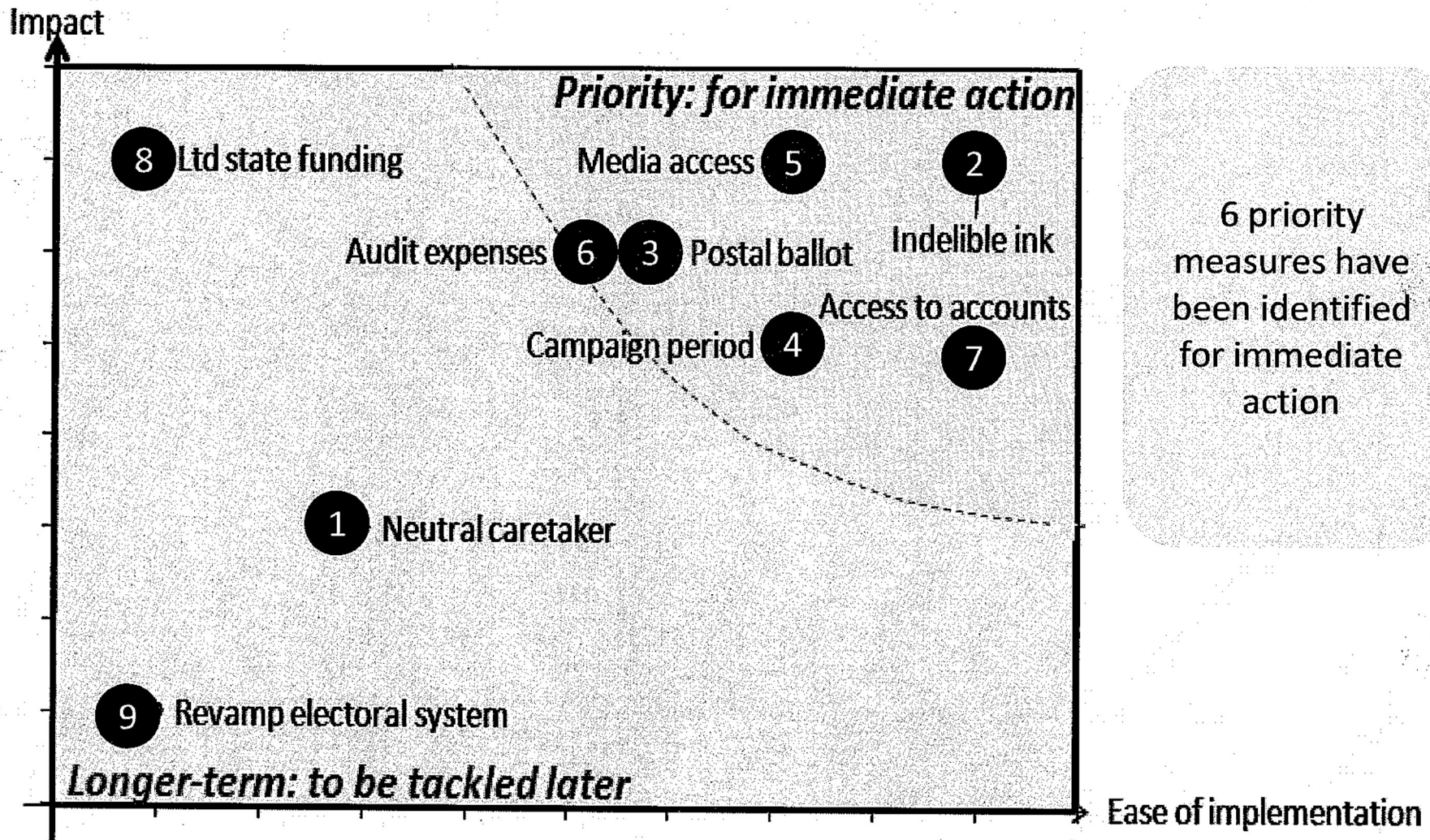
Structural Reforms

- 9 Reform of voting system from First Past the Post

Sources:

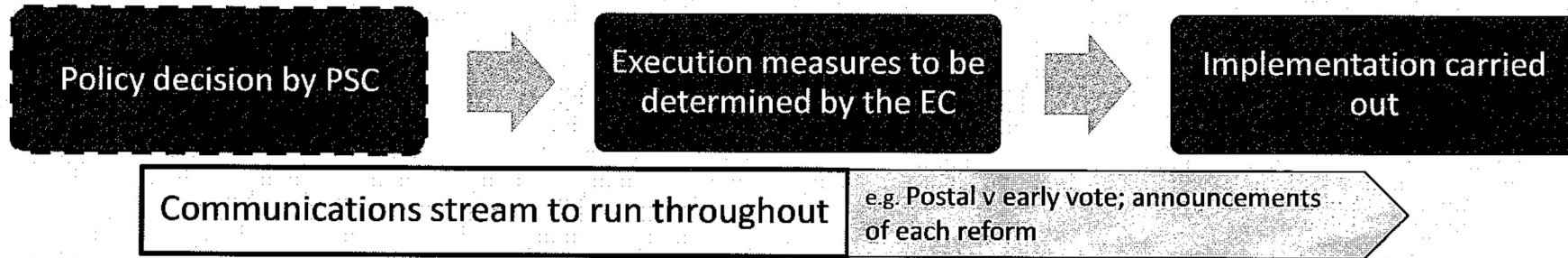
1. Transparency International's Memorandum of Reform of Political Financing in Malaysia.
2. Bersih 2.0 manifesto
3. International benchmarks from Fair Vote Canada, UK electoral reform initiatives, Help America Vote Act

Electoral Reforms: Identifying realistic priority measures



Impact was assessed by the effect or impression the initiative will have on the rakyat, based on their demands.

Electoral Reforms: Next steps to execute priority measures

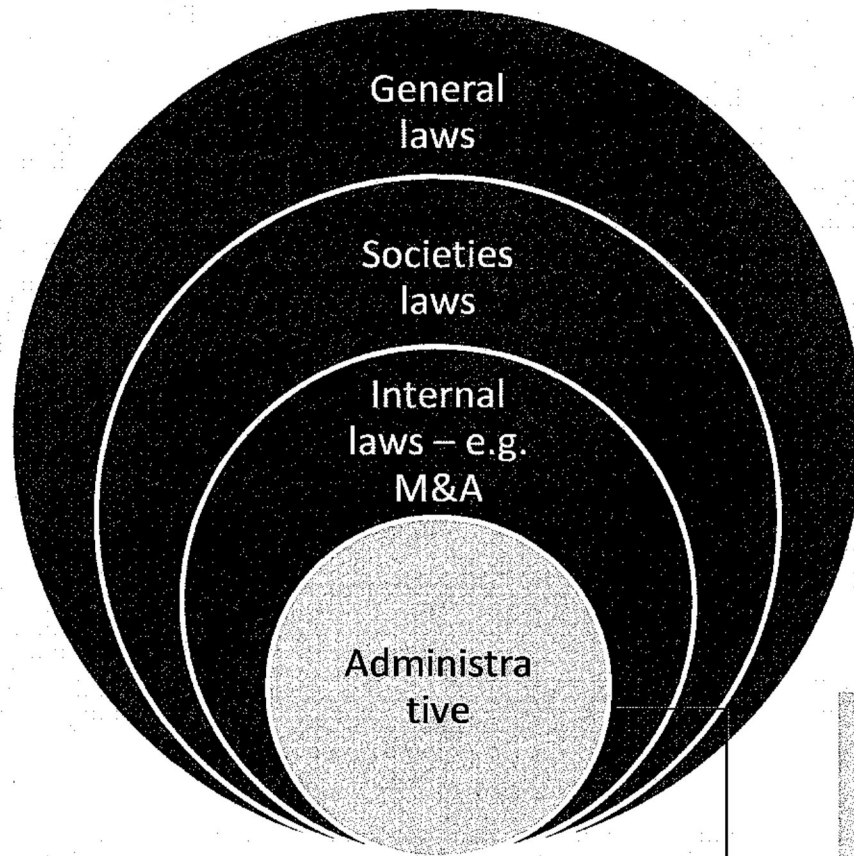


6 priority measures have been identified for immediate action

| No | Initiative | Details |
|----|-----------------------------|--|
| 3 | Equal and Fair Media Access | Campaign slots on radio/TV, ads in print media etc. to be offered fairly to all parties through a goodwill gesture |
| 3 | Indelible Ink | EC to mandate use |
| 3 | Postal Ballot | Communications to raise awareness on the difference between overseas voting v postal ballot v early voting. For overseas voting: Singapore system has so far shown to be practicable |
| 4 | Extend campaign period | Singapore system: 10 days with "cooling off" day on day before elections |
| 6 | Audit Expenses | Legislative changes will not be able to be implemented fast enough for this to be a "quick win". |
| 7 | Access to accounts | Propose administrative directive issued to party heads |



Changes to the laws to improve political funding take time – an administrative solution is proposed in the short term



- There is no specific law governing political societies – a new law would need to be introduced
- There has been much caution in amending societies laws and regulations
- Amendments to internal documents such as the Memorandum and Articles of Association will require internal procedures to amend

It is proposed that an administrative directive be issued by party heads to:

- Directly credit all donations to the party into the party accounts
- Maintain clear records of spending that enables audit