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A STATEMENT ISSUED BY RASSED'S COALITION FOR MONITORING THE ELECTIONS

- Rased puts forward recommendations about displaying voter schedules and registering candidates.
- Rased recommends guaranteeing suffrage for that quarantined due to of Covid19.
- «Rased» recommends a lottery system to arrange lists and freedom for the list to rank its candidates.
- The alphabetical order of the candidates on the list limits their freedom to self-organize.
- Rased recommends receiving self-objection requests within the Commission's offices.
- Recommendations to issue clear mechanisms to deal with individuals who did not specify their addresses and did not renew their civil status card.
- Rased recommends guaranteeing suffrage for those who are quarantined due to Covid19.
- Rased suggests opening the door for electronic objection to electoral tables.

* This work was carried out by long-term monitors as part of the process of monitoring the parliamentary elections 2020



هذا المشروع ممول من الاتحاد الأوروبي



USAID
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Amman, Jordan

Rased's coalition for monitoring the elections issued a statement that includes a set of recommendations related to displaying the voters' schedules and candidates registration. Dr Amer Bani Amer, Coordinator of Rased's coalition for monitoring the elections, stressed that providing periodic recommendations greatly contributes to strengthening and improving the electoral process, and Bani Amer said that conducting elections within this stage which coexists with the Covid19 epidemic requires more efforts and coordination between all governmental and non-governmental institutions.

The statement included several recommendations, such as recommendations related to the mechanism of distributing voters according to the civil registration for the same family, recommendations on the existence of mechanisms for dealing with voters who do not have specific addresses and which numbers exceed 50 thousand, a recommendation about citizens who did not issue the renewed civil status card, recommendations on the necessity of guaranteeing the right to vote for individuals quarantined due to Covid19, and the need to receive requests for self-objection within the offices of the Commission distributed in the governorates, and many other recommendations that we put before the electoral administration, and the following are the recommendations presented in detail:

First: With regard to the stage of displaying the voter schedules

- Rased recommends the need to adhere to the distribution of voters according to the civil registration, to ensure that family members who are within the same family book are at the same polling center. this contributes to reducing the challenges facing voters in reaching polling centers, for in the previous elections, many families had individuals belonging to them present in several polling stations.

- The "Rased" team recommends the commission to open the door for electronic objection to the designated polling stations within the electoral district until the day preceding the final voters' schedules presentation.

- Rased recommends the commission that a detailed list of polling centers eligible to receive voters with disabilities and limited mobility should be published and that a high degree of flexibility must be provided to transport voters with disabilities and limited mobility to centers eligible to receive them on polling day.

-In line with the current epidemical and health situation, it is expected that during the polling day thousands of citizens will be quarantined, especially Jordanians returning from abroad. based on the right of Jordanians to vote according to Article 67 of the Constitution, this requires ensuring their participation in the polling process by building and introducing polling rooms in the quarantine hotels, while at the same time ensuring all procedures related to the guarantees of integrity, freedom and justice related to the voting process.

- The necessity of finding a clear mechanism to deal with voters who do not have clear and specific addresses, which are estimated to be over 50 thousand. this is to guarantee that they do not move from one electoral district to another or to prevent transgressions by some candidates who take advantage of voters' absent addresses through collective transport, which affects the integrity of the electoral process.

- The necessity of finding a mechanism to notify citizens who did not renew their civil status cards, especially since their number exceeds 157,000 voters. therefore we recommend that coordination should be done with the Civil Status Department to open its offices on polling day so that any voter can renew it on election day.

- Rased recommends the necessity of amending the instructions for preparing the voters' schedules by amending Article (8-a), which requires requests for objection to be submitted to the Civil Status Office. This amendment will allow voters to submit their objections to The Independent Election Commission offices and headquarters, provided that they are collected and decided upon by the Committee for the Resolution of Applications in Civil Status, as this facilitates the process of objection and ensures no crowding and overcrowding in civil status offices.

Second: Registration of candidates

- Rased recommends the authorization of lottery in regards to the order of the electoral lists in the ballot paper, for Article 11 of the Special Executive Instructions No. 6 related to candidacy for the electoral district stipulates that «the names and numbers of lists appear on the ballot paper according to the precedence of submitting the candidacy application according to the date and time of submitting each of them». In 2016, this practice caused crowding in front of the registration centers for candidates and led to some conflicts, and we stress the need to adopt the principle of the subsequent lottery in arranging the electoral lists in the ballot paper.

- As for the effect of the arrangement of the names of the candidates within the electoral list on the electoral process outputs, Rased recommends requesting the electoral lists to pre-arrange the candidates in them and to submit them to the Independent Commission for accreditation instead of adopting the alphabetical order, in order to give the candidate lists freedom in joint teamwork and increasing the neutrality of the Independent Election Commission.

-Due to the epidemical situation, it is possible that one of the elections' candidates will be infected, and the medical protocol dictates that the injured person should be quarantined for a period of 14 days until he or she heals, this in return will cause the candidate to drop his or her campaign, and here, Rased recommends issuing special instructions that achieve justice between the candidates and ensure community protection.