

The final report of the manual counting and sorting for Baghdad Province

Tammuz organization has finished the monitoring the manual counting and sorting process for the boxes of Baghdad province simultaneous with the Iraqi High Commission IHEC. The process began from May 2 thru May 15 2010.

The observation of the process was comprehensive starting from the stage of transferring the boxes from both sides of Baghdad (Karkh and Rosafa). The process of observing the boxes and checking their safety began in the afternoon of May 2 where some 800 to 1000 boxes of total 11300 being transferred per day.

Since the 3rd day of May, the manual counting and sorting began on two shifts (Morning shift and afternoon shift) the morning shift begins at 8:00 am until 2:00 pm and the afternoon shift begins from 2:00 pm thru 8:00 pm. The IHEC has prepared 100 teams to perform the process.

On May 5, our observers were present in the center of date entering to monitor the initiation of the process of counting and sorting. The employees of IHEC began the virtual working on May 6 thru May 15 2010.

Our observers provided us with their observations concerning the monitoring of the three phases of counting and sorting which we can summarize as follows:

- 1- The IHEC accomplished all the technical, logistic and security preparations.
 - 2- The government provided the logistic and sufficient protection to transfer the boxes from the storehouses to Rasheed Hotel as well as inviting the native observers to monitor the process.
 - 3- Our preparations for monitoring the process of counting and sorting was good. Two of our observers were present daily with the forces that were in charge of transferring the boxes to the destination.
- Ten observers from the organization were present in the halls of manual counting and sorting in Rasheed Hotel as well as two more observers in the National office of registering the results in IHEC.
- 4- holding coordinating meetings between IHEC employees and Tammuz members.
 - 5- our observers did not register any violations or infringements relating to the process of transferring the boxes and checking them except some case were broken locks found among the boxes.
 - 6- Our observers mentioned that there were no other local organizations or international observers accompanied the transferring of the boxes.
 - 7- The IHEC chose the employees from variety of its offices in the provinces.
 - 8- Continuous existence for the members of the Commissioners council in the centers of manual counting and sorting.

- 9- The early days of counting and sorting witnessed attendance of some candidates and Ex-parliament members to the centers of Counting and Sorting. Some of them made press conferences synchronizing with the process of counting.
- 10-outstanding presence for the representatives of political entities and NGOs as well as the native and international observers. Some representatives were from The Mission of United Nations to Iraq-UNAMI and UNOPS.
- 11- Continuous presence for the delegation of the Arabic League.
- 12-Daily existence for the media to cover the process.
- 13-Semi-daily press conferences for the Council of Commissioners to announce the preliminary results and discuss the course of the process. It is considered worthy step to fulfill transparency and openness in work as well as showing the natives the course of the procedures.
- 14- Some rare cases of broken locks were seen not identical to the boxes numbers but the lists numbers and results were all identical in lists 501 and 502.
- 15-some voting cards were seen among the voting sheets and these cards made some confusion but did not affect the course of the work or the results.
- 16-The discrepancy between the numbers of voting sheets and the signatures in register that contains the enclosed information. This case was observed in few stations that did not change the results of the stations.
- 17-The incompatibility of the voting sheets and the number of signatures in the voting register. This case was checked thru the period of manual counting and sorting and it appeared that the mistake was in the forms only.
- 18-Our observers notices the presence of some unsealed voting sheets and that led Cancel these sheets.
- 19-Our observers noticed some changes in the results of stations as these stations did not count the votes of some sheets or counting the votes for the benefit of other lists.
- 20- Some stations results were not identical to the old results. Generally the results were identical to the declared ones.
- 21- The political parties' representatives submitted 300 complaints since the beginning of the manual counting and sorting.
- 22-Tammuz organization made daily comparison between the old results of the election and the results of the manual counting and sorting to accredit the results. It was shown that there was little change in the results among the stations but did not affect the results of election.
- 23-Tammuz organization observers made press meetings in the centers of counting and sorting in addition to other meetings with in charge outside the counting and sorting centers.
- 24-The manual sorting and counting was accomplished publicly and transparently with no violations of breaches.

25-Finalizing the process of counting and sorting of the boxes in the morning of May 14 and in the evening of that day the VIP voting was finished. in May 16 the IHEC employees sorted and counted 6 more boxes that some complaints were previously submitted against them.

26-The data entering that virtually stated in May 6 and finalized in May 15 was implemented accurately and publicly with no violations in that phase.

27-The manual sorting and counting proved its accuracy if compared with the electronic one in spite of the presence of some mistakes in the registration phase and or the manner of counting and sorting.

28-The presence of differences in the votes and loss of some previously won candidates in the older results refer to the fact that voting and the process of

Sorting and counting were not accomplished well.

29- It has not been proven for the organization any type of organized fraud affect the result of election.

30-We recommend that IHEC necessarily choose qualifies cadres in the voting centers and training them sufficiently to perfect and sounding the results in the future.

31-The IHEC procedures in employing its cadres in the counting and sorting phase were precise that eventually contributed in embedding the transparency of the process. We recommend as well that the IHEC choose the employees for this process in the same way in the futuristically.

32- We indeed are as Tammuz organization cadre praises the IHEC for the organized procedures in the phase of counting and sorting as well as the Federal Court decision despite the fact that it did not change the results of the winning list. We look as civil society organization to the decision as legalizing factor that grants confidence and faith in the results of the election which is the issue that our organization has confirmed throughout all the previous reports.

**Tammuz organization for Social Development
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