

Summary of the report of Tammuz organization for social development to observation the election of governorates councils in 31/1/2009

Information about the organization administration and its process of observation:

- ✓ Tammuz is a Social development humanitarian organization working for an independent public interest established in 1997 in Kurdistan of Iraq, taken in the headquarters in Baghdad, and its coordinators throughout the governorates. Have a variety of activities in the area of human development and capacity-building, rehabilitation and training, and dissemination of a culture of human rights and democracy, and the culture of coexistence between the components of Iraqi society.
- ✓ One of the objectives of the organization devoted to the awareness of the electoral observers, a step towards the democratization of society, and in this spirit that the organization has carried out dozens of projects with regard to awareness and education, elections and the constitution and strengthening the participation in particular the participation of women. And control of electoral processes, starting from the National Assembly elections and the referendum on the constitution and elections for parliament and provincial council elections recently in all stages (update the voter register, contribute to the design and distribution of posters advertising the commission to promote the participation of the electorate, draw numbers to determine the competing lists, campaigns, voting, the Special Control silence the media, control on the general elections in January 31, 2009 and control of the national centers of counting and the counting of the votes). Regional coordinating offices in Baghdad, Erbil and Dhi Qar, in addition to the coordinators in all the districts and sub-coordinators of all 25 observers from the total of the same governorate .
- ✓ Tammuz observers the spread of development, in 18 provinces conducted by the provincial elections, including the governorates of Erbil, Sulaymaniyah and Dohuk and Kirkuk, which opened to the vote centers are displaced. They began their mission to monitor the conduct of the elections and send their reports through the regional coordination offices in both Baghdad and Arbil, Dhi Qar, to the status of the organization, which has documented the information and the formulation and delivery of standard reports to the National Office of the Independent Electoral Commission, at the same time, media reports have been prepared and disseminated via implementing the media, the first, in the Rashid Hotel for translation and facilitation of international observers and the media channels and agencies of foreign correspondents to date, and second, in the Sheraton Hotel, to provide agencies and correspondents of the press and television reports and to answer the queries directly to the Iraqi and Arab satellite channels.

We can be summarized the observer's notes, and the outcome of monitoring and oversight of the conduct of the elections on three levels:

First: Summary reports on the opening stages of the voting and counting and counting

In general elections were held normally and in accordance with international standards and controls that have been adopted, which are better organized than in the previous elections, which indicates the accuracy and professionalism and respect for international standards in the work of commission, but there are difficulties and violations occurred, some of them seriously, but does not live up to the election appeal in general, but must be considered the responsibility of:

- Opened the vast majority of polling at around seven in the morning.
- has been the deployment of observers and their entry into the polling smoothly without serious impediments except for a small number of centers that have not Allow
- For the entry of our observers, which was later resolved in coordination with the offices of the Electoral Commission.

It was noted that all the technical and logistical requirements necessary for the voting process, in most polling.

- the presence of UNHCR staff well in the polling, each staff member and took place in the allotted polling station.
- the counting process took place the ballot papers to all attendees, and presentation of the ballot boxes were empty before the audience, and closed well to begin the process of voting.
- noted the presence of adequate security and protection at a reasonable distance from the centers.
- Register of the existence of our own agents and observers of the political entities of civil society organizations in the electoral centers and well attended.
- allowed to enter the media center for the media except for one special polling stations in Basra.
- voter turnout at polling stations varied from center to another, and it was noted the low turnout election centers in the early hours and by the escalation of a high and then dropped again in the final hours and the rates varied between the centers For registration centers displaced by the turnout was very high, which caused overcrowding and chaos, which has evolved into a fracas between the voters in some of which required the intervention of security forces to maintain the centers.

- the main problem that emerged in the major provinces across the inability of the hundreds of thousands of voters from casting their ballots because of the lack of names in the register of voters.
 - change the places of voting used by voters in previous elections. Thus creating confusion among the voters in the center and the station for the vote.
 - After a large number of polling stations, and the imposition of a curfew for vehicles, and impeded access to many of the polls of voters, especially older persons, thus depriving a few to cast their ballots.
- noted the continuation of the propaganda campaign for the representatives of political entities on the ballot and noted the sympathy of a number of UNHCR staff with some of the lists of competing in the provinces.
- Some managers stopped polling, and short periods, the entry of local observers and representatives of political entities to the electoral centers.
- Monitoring has been many cases of family voting and vote in parliament.
- Some members of the police in Najaf, the transfer of voters to the police station and put pressure on them for the election of certain lists.
- have been recorded cases of the removal of ink.
- Given the large number of lists competing in the ballot form, which made the count and the count is too long, and took considerable time for hours after the polls close.
- made a number of complaints about the lists Bam neutral commission in a number of governorates Mthmth it to work for the benefit of specific lists, and there are many complaints of the feet, especially in Anbar, Mosul, Diyala, Salah al-Din.

Second Conclusions:

- There is a general tribute to the work of the Independent High Electoral Commission, for the proper management of the impartiality of the elections, and its success in the deployment of polling stations on time, and providing technical and logistical requirements of the electoral centers, and follow-up to the conduct of the election process, where there was the supervision of the Chief of the Commissioners.
- the growth of awareness in dealing with the crystallization of the elections to the voters as

a benefit no matter how politically and democratically, based on the involvement of citizens to choose their representatives, a democratic choice, is new to the Iraqi people.

- Involvement of new forces in the elections, and this is an affirmation of the desire to participate in the political process, and the expression of the success of the policy of national reconciliation, which goes by the State.
- The results of the election of provincial assemblies are an important foundation in the conflict over the future of the new Iraqi state, which will be the format and content of this state, in part, subject to the emergence of political forces of the seats in provincial councils.
- to contribute to the electoral process is the awareness and perception reflects a clear understanding of the importance of the elections, and its role in determining the course of the political process and trends, and paid at the same time to speed up the selection of some of the best representation of citizens is to stay awake and to provide services to them.
- elections were held under conditions of better security compared to what it was in previous elections, the electoral centers were well-protected access to them easily, and there were no security problems near any of these centers. Note that the fears of the violence has declined and clear.
- The dissolution of previous alliances formed on the basis of sectarian rivalry has been on the floor of the national discourse, a decline largely sectarian option.
- There was criticism of the election rhetoric, and exercised, even before the lists that have influence in government.
- The money was used heavily in political campaigns, as well as the means were employed and the state's potential and their careers.
- Great interest campaigns, and can be seen both through the large amounts of money disbursed, or the interest and activity of the most prominent political leaders in the country. This is the attention to the importance of each list and their impact on political life, and embodies the one hand, the struggle for power and influence, as well as on the design features of the new Iraqi state.
- Decline in sectarian rhetoric and the forces that represent, and the entry of many of the forces and parties, elections and national titles.

- Attend national program (election promises at the national level) in the election campaign to a large extent, disappeared while on the whole local programs (election promises at the local level) which is supposed to be light on the competition as the contest elections are local, not national.
- The presence and the chances of the lists that competed on behalf of one large in all governorates, while the dispersion of the lists that have been taken and the names of a variety of alliances and by the provinces.
- There are differences and diversity in the results of the elections between the province and the other, emphasizes the importance of unity in diversity.
- The large number of lists and entities that competed in the elections made a crowded ballot paper the names, of which the voting process difficult.
- The media have a distinct role in the coverage of the election process, and contributed to many of the spaces and radio in the transfer of scientific conduct of the elections in the file for consideration, the shares of the citizen to give a vivid picture of developments in the details of this large operation.
- The participation of international observers and local and wide and large contributed to building confidence and credibility to make the configuration and preparation of the electoral process and management.
- Organization has a good role in the training of observers, and to organize the deployment of all election centers, and management of high-efficiency, and speed in receiving reports, and deal with it responsibly, and delivery to the Independent High Electoral Commission, and to the media, and perform duties with professionalism, independence and efficiency. All of this has been the focus of everyone's respect and positive evaluation of our activity from various circles on the election.

Third Recommendations:

The conclusions of the previous development of a set of recommendations including:

- The importance of a comprehensive national population census, to be the light of building a respected electoral register.

- the importance of a voter's card, that contains the voter's name and the name and the name of the electoral Center station, which make the ballot, and enough time before the distribution dates for the ballot to ensure the exercise of the right of every citizen to participate in the elections.
- The importance of adopting the law of parties, including the approval of the adoption of the democratic parties, both within or with others during the exercise of political action in the country.
- the importance of adopting a law that regulates the electoral process including the issue of funding, defining the ultimate fiscal spending, so there is a reasonable balance between the competing, and develop controls for those entitled to participate in electoral competition.
- To support the Independent Electoral Commission to be its permanent, to develop programs and mechanisms through which the training of its staff and temporary staff in enabling them to perform their duties well.
- State support and facilities for the local monitoring networks, as an important part of the electoral process to perform its duty diligently.
- Organization of the state well and should be neutral in dealing with competing lists, so as to ensure that the lists of equal opportunities in programs and the promotion of their candidates during the election campaign.

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