

## **RASSED for Parliamentary Monitoring Program 15<sup>th</sup> Weekly Report on the Performance of the Parliament During the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session March 5, 2016**

### **ALegislative session and 13 a meeting held by 10 parliamentary committees.**

The House of Representatives held one legislative session on the fifteenth week of the third ordinary session. Ten parliamentary committees out of the 20 standing committee held 13 legislative and oversight meetings during the past week. The Public Services and Transport Committee, Tourism and Antiquities Committee, and the Energy and Mineral Resources Committee held two meetings each.

In the 15th week of the third ordinary session of the Senate, the council returned the draft electoral law for the year 2016 to the House of Representatives after they added an amendment to Article 66 of the draft law in the case of vacant seat in the current Council. This was done in the absence of a provision in the draft law includes a mechanism to deal with it.

The draft electoral law returned from the Senate will be at the top of the House of Representatives agenda during next week's session. It is likely that the House of Representatives will agree on the Senate's decision and submit it to the Senate to pass the bill in its final form. Then they will submit it to His Majesty the King for approval and publish it in the official Gazette.

The Legal Committee approved the draft law for Integrity and Anti-Corruption. The Public Service and Transportation committee approved the Public Transport and Passengers Law and held a press conference to announce its approval. While the Health and Environment Committee approved the draft Law on Environmental Protection. The Energy and Mineral Resources Committee continued to discuss and approved the regulation of the Energy and Minerals Sector Commission Draft Law. The Finance Committee discussed the Audit Bureau reports for the years 2009 to 2012.

The Tourism and Antiquities Committee held two oversight meetings. In the first meeting, the committee discussed the taxes on tourist transport sector, and its impact on the sector, and listened to the demands of the owners of tourist transport companies. The committee discussed the mechanisms of promoting Jordan's tourism while hosting Women's World Cup under the age of 17 years during the second meeting.

The Women and Family Affairs Committee met with the Government Coordinator for Human Rights and members of the Human Rights Recommendations Committee. The Committee stressed the need for a comprehensive national plan to study the legislation and reports that contribute the promotion of human rights system in harmony with the Royal visions.

The Education and Culture Committee discussed the Ministry of Higher Education policies, especially to reconsider the instructions of grants, loans and internal and external scholarships and raising fees at the University of Jordan and discussed the student protest. The committee discussed the establishment of a Faculty of Agriculture in Al-Aghwar Al Shamaliyyeh, and the problem of Jordanian students who studied medicine in Hungarian universities, and students that came back from Yemen.

The Public Services and Transport Committee discussed the owner's demands of cars leased to the Jordanian Electric Power Company. The Foreign Affairs Committee and the Jordanian Parliamentary Friendship Assembly met with Italian Ambassador in Amman Giovanni Brauzzi. The Labour and Social Development Committee discussed citizen complaints about implementing article 63 of the Social Security Act.

The House of Representatives issued a statement rejecting Jordan's security threat and extended condolences and sympathy to the Jordanian people and to the family of the hero the martyr Major Rashid Zyoud, who was killed in a raid on a number of outlaws in the city of Irbid.