



المفوضية العليا المستقلة للانتخابات في العراق
كۆمیسۆنی باڵای سه ریه خۆی هه لێژارد نه كان له عێراق

The Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) of Iraq

International Electoral Assistance Team (IEAT)

Fact Sheet

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES ELECTION: CERTIFICATION OF POLITICAL ENTITIES

The Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) of Iraq has issued Regulation No. 15 of 2009 to regulate the certification of political entities for the Council of Representatives election. To be eligible to nominate candidates and be represented on the ballot for the CoR elections, a political entity must be certified by the IHEC. Groups or individuals may apply for the certification as a political entity.

The regulation, procedures and official forms can be downloaded from the official IHEC website at <http://www.ihec.iq>. The official period for the submission of applications is to be 20-30 August 2009, and applications may be officially submitted at the IHEC National Office (NO), Kurdistan Regional Electoral Office (KREO) or at any of the IHEC's 19 Governorate Electoral Offices (GEOs). All political entities seeking to be certified for the CoR election whether certified previously or not, must submit full applications.

The application for certification must be submitted using the templates provided by the IHEC, the information required includes: the proposed name and logo of the political entity, contact details, the details of the head of the political entity, as well as a designated representative, the political entity's internal system of appointment and candidate selection, a signed copy of the code of conduct, a list of at least 500 signatures of eligible voters (including their contact information), and a deposit of ID 25,000,000 (for groups) or ID 5,000,000 for individuals.

The proposed names and logos of political entities cannot be used if they are deemed likely to incite hatred or violence, or contain military or religious symbols. Political entities that have been certified in previous elections, may keep the same name and logo, if the political entity's name, head and logo have not been changed. If two or more political entities submit the same or very similar names or logos for certification (without prior claim), the entity that is certified first will receive that name and logo.

The IHEC will publish the details of certified and non-certified political entities via its website and the advertisement board at the NO and KREO or GEO where the application was submitted. In the case of non-certified political entities, the details will also be published in three newspapers (in both Arabic and Kurdish languages) for three days.

Political entities will have the right to submit a complaint to the Board of Commissioners (BoC) regarding any decision by the IHEC. If necessary, they may also appeal a decision of the BoC to the Electoral Judicial Panel (EJP), within three days starting from the next day of the BoC publishing that decision.

The IHEC will announce a period for the certification of coalitions at a later date, also after which, certified political entities and coalitions will be able to nominate candidates for the CoR election.