



RASSED starts monitoring the 18th Parliament, coinciding with the launch of its first ordinary session

6 / 11 / 2016

• RASSED calls on members of the 18th Parliament to restore confidence in the legislative institution and promote parliamentary transparency and collaborative work.

The first ordinary session of the 18th parliament's starts its activities tomorrow, Nov 6th 2016, facing a number of challenges, such as restoring confidence and bridging the gap between MP's and constituents. This is particularly salient as Jordan is heading towards a new parliamentary road map, with the sitting parliament facing major changes from the 17th parliament. The 18th House of Representatives includes partisans, members of different political backgrounds, and a number of MPs who have been elected for the first time. RASSED is thus launching its monitoring activities for the 18th parliament under the same principles that were used in previous parliament, and using international methodologies that promote collaborative work and create positive engagement aimed at developing the legislative institution and increasing communication channels between MPs and constituents.

RASSED calls on members of the 18th parliament to promote transparency and integrity, and to give civil society a role in decision making process and maintain international best practices that enhance citizen participation in parliamentary duties on the basis of broadening the base of participation and dialogue within all Jordanian communities and their partisan, civic and civil institutes. RASSED also demands that the 18th parliament promote and enhance the transparency and integrity of various issues that may arise by keeping citizens informed of legislation close to people's daily life, ensuring that new rules are understandable and discussed under the dome. Additionally, it is imperative that the parliament promotes collaborative work as this is considered one the most important pillars in developing parliamentary performance when working with parliamentary blocs founded on common ground between members capable of engaging positively with governmental and independent institutions. These blocs make a significant contribution in the decision making, drafting, and passing of legislation that will develop overall parliamentary performance.

Reviewing the parliament bylaws enhances the work environment and allows MPs to learn from previous experience gleaned from past sessions. Among these are the frequent absence of MPs from parliamentary sessions, and commitment to the mechanisms described in the bylaws to discuss legislation that would develop parliamentary exercises that favor the good of the public. This should be taken into account when electing members of experienced committees to develop permanent committees, and RASSED requests that the house to give the utmost importance to its regulatory duties and activates this constitutional role of parliament and its deputies. be more sensitive to the regulatory tools used to strengthen oversight and collective performance through parliamentary blocs.

With the beginning of the 18th Parliament, RASSED hopes to see effective participation of women under the dome. This will enhance women's political, legislative, and regulatory roles, where women parliamentarians bear a great responsibility in creating new opportunities for effective and positive participation under the dome.