



المفوضية العليا المستقلة للانتخابات في العراق
كۆميسونى باآلى سه ربه خۆى هه ئيزارد نه كان له عيراق

The Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) of Iraq

International Electoral Assistance Team (IEAT)

FACT SHEET COMPONENT RESERVED SEATS

Following deliberations by the Council of Representatives, an amendment to the Governorate Election Law 2008, was passed in November 2008. The amendment granted reserved seats to three component groups in three Governorates:

- Baghdad: 1 Christian, 1 Sabean
- Ninewah: 1 Christian, 1 Yezidi, 1 Shabek.
- Basrah: 1 Christian

Those who identified themselves as component candidates were then asked by the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) to transfer from the general political entity registration process to a special component reserved seat process.

This process was completed and all those who wish to stand for election for a reserved seat have been enabled to do so. Component candidates are subject to the same eligibility requirements as general candidates and must be approved to run by the Justice and Accountability Commission (“De Baathification Commission”) and certified by the IHEC. Component candidates will appear on the same ballot paper as general candidates for that governorate.

The IHEC has allowed component candidates to also nominate two substitute candidates should they be incapacitated and unable to take their seat if they win. If a component candidate is unable to take their seat or loses their seat through incapacity or death then the first substitute will take the seat for the remaining term of office.

Voting for Component Candidates

- Anyone can vote for a component candidate.
- Voting for component candidates will take place in the same polling stations and booths as general voting.
- There will not be a separate ballot for components.
- Component political entities and candidates will be presented on the same ballot as general political entities.
- Component candidates are listed in a separate area of the same ballot paper. This area will be coloured differently from the general list area.
- A voter can either vote for a general list and candidate **OR** a component list and candidate.
- The counting of votes for component candidates and lists will occur at the same time as for general lists in that polling station (unless the voter is an IDP or falls within the special category of voters that includes military, police, detainees or hospitalized voters).

For further information please visit the IHEC website at www.ihec.iq or call the IHEC National Call Centre on the following toll free numbers: Mobile 7777 or landlines 7432516, 7432518 and 7432519