



المفوضية العليا المستقلة للإنتخابات في العراق
كۆميسونى باآلى سه ربه خۆى هه ئيزارد نه كان له عيزراق

The Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) of Iraq

International Electoral Assistance Team (IEAT)

FACT SHEET

Formation of Governorate Councils

- The process of formation of the Governorate Councils is governed by the Governorate Council Election Law (Law No 36 of 2008) and the Law for Governorates Not Part of a Region (Law No. 21 of 2008).
- The Councils should elect their chairman and deputy chairman within 15 days of certification of election results by the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC). The Councils should then elect the governor and their two deputies within 30 days.
- The session to elect the council chairman and their deputy is the first session of the council, chaired by its oldest member. The current Council's work shall be ended immediately from the date of convening the first session of the new elected Council.
- Election of the governor and their two deputies is not necessary to convene the councils. Candidates for the governor post shall meet the conditions required for Council membership and should have a university degree or its equivalent.
- A governorate council's term is stipulated as 4 years from the date of the first session, convened within 15 days of the certification of election results.
- The election of the chairman, governor and their respective deputies are **indirect** elections, as defined by the law and administered by the Councils themselves. Absolute majority is required for these elections (50% + 1, of votes). In the case of no absolute majority for the governor a run off election is held between the two candidates with the highest votes, with the most voted candidate being elected.

No.	Event	Timeline	Comments
1.	Election results approved.	0 day	Final certified results issued by the IHEC.
2.	GC Elects Council Chairman and Deputy	Within 15 days of (1)	First session of GC. Session to be chaired by oldest member. Absolute majority required.
3.	Election of Governor and Deputies	Within 30 days of (2)	Absolute majority with second round run-off stipulated.
4.	Term of Governorate Council	Four years from (2)	GC terms are stipulated as 4 yrs from the date of the first session.