

Arab Center for the Development of the Rule of Law and Integrity - ACRLI

Project of a Work Plan for the Execution of the Recommendations Reported in the Reports on the State of the Parliament in Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and Morocco.

There is lot of impediments that stands in the way of developing the Arab parliamentary experiences; therefore reform process requires a lot of continuous effort in order to achieve successive steps toward overcoming these impediments and directing the Arab parliaments into the right track; consequently we can not expect magical solutions since reform is not an overnight process it can be done within the course of political and legal reality development and in social relations patterns. This where comes from, the importance of gathering the energies to accomplish this tough mission which is indispensable for Arab states as it allows them to get out of their crisis and puts them in the good governance track.

And if reform is a process related to the responsible parties in the state, the civil society, the private sector and the political parties has to play an essential role in it because reform is important for different sectors.

The reform research centers also have a role to play, the Arab Center for the Development of the Rule of law and Integrity made a contribution seeking the achievement of good governance in the Arab world through undertaking the execution of a project that monitored and revealed the state of parliament in four Arab countries (Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and Morocco), it sees the necessity of completing the project through laying down a work plan to be carried out through coming years.

The parliamentary reports in the related countries aims at monitoring and concretizing the parliaments' reality therein in order to draw up a reform strategy regarding the Arab parliaments, to be implemented for the establishment of the rule of law and integrity as well as the rationalization of the parliaments' performance being concerned, more than any other institutions, in the reform process, seen their stand in a State's structure and the powers they are supposed to have in their capacity of the spokesperson for the public.

Therefore, the recommendations reported in the reports shall turn into a work plan to be carried out through a program.

The suggested work plan covers the following:

1. To finalize the work of the <u>Parliamentary Observatory</u> in the Arab Center for the Development of the Rule of Law and Integrity – ACRLI and to extend its activities towards other Arab countries. Furthermore, to follow up the parliaments' performance in fulfilling their mandate and drawing up public policies, to measure integrity within performance, efficiency in fighting corruption and preserving the public funds and to set up annual reports over the state of the parliament in the light of the Center's principles and indicators. Moreover, to compare the state of the parliament with earlier data



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in order to assess any relevant evolution or decline, to draw up recommendations meant to improve the performance in an attempt to achieve the good rule, to refer to the development of parliamentary actions' reforms over the year. Further to that, to report the reform operation's obstacles, submit suggestions to help overcoming them, work with the society's active organizations in order to carry out the recommendations and suggestions concerning the development and activation of the parliamentary action.

- 2. To set up a <u>modern standard law for parties</u> the Arab countries can rely on in order to draft modern laws for their parties meant to activate their role in the political life and let them exercise their activities in an environment of transparency and integrity as well as to develop the partisans' culture of democracy and getting together. The adoption of mechanisms for choosing a party's candidates help putting up those who enjoy competence, potential and integrity, granting them a positive role in the parliament so that they participate in the elections on the basis of reform programs.
- 3. To set up a <u>modern standard law for parliamentary groups</u> that can be adopted and introduced to the internal Arab parliamentary rules in order to draw their development on right and strong basis. In addition, to organize and activate their performance, set up their role in the parliamentary field, refreshing therefore the parliamentary life and regularity within the framework of partisans and opposition on the basis of the rules adopted in parliamentary democracies.
- 4. To work on legislation reforms through a <u>guide for drafting legislations</u> on good basis.
- 5. To set up reliable guidance principles and basis for the development of internal Arab parliamentary rules in order to activate their performance.
- 6. <u>To set up law formulas hindering the implementation of laws that do not</u> <u>respect constitutions</u>, in order to fill the gaps of the constitutional councils and tribunals' work mechanisms, therefore to improve the oversight of the laws' constitutionality and to create law formulas hindering the implementation of regulatory decrees that do not respect the rules.
- 7. <u>To set up a modern standard law for parliamentary morality</u> that can be adopted by Arab parliaments in order to control the parliamentary behaviors, guaranteeing therefore integrity and good rule.
- 8. To play a part in <u>the activation of the civil society organizations</u>, through a relationship network connecting them to the Arab Center for the Development of the Rule of Law and Integrity and to carry out common activities regarding the good rule, the parliament's role, the parliamentary



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rules, the culture of democracy, the importance of participating in the elections and leading media campaigns to enlighten the public opinion.