



بنیاد انتخابات شفاف افغانستان  
د افغانستان د رڼو ټاکنو بنسټ  
**Transparent Election Foundation of Afghanistan**

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**Timeline for parliamentary elections must be announced**

**Kabul:** Transparent Election Foundation of Afghanistan (TEFA) is deeply concerned on ambiguity over parliamentary election's timeline, not establishment of election reform commission by National Unity Government, and the unlikely approval for proposed amendments on electoral laws before parliament's winter recess.

According to Constitution, the parliamentary elections must be held before June 21, 2015, however, no measurements have been taken so far by the Independent Election Commission (IEC) and timeline for elections has not been announced yet.

Recently, there have been contradictory statements on postponing upcoming elections, which have concerned election observer groups. TEFA expects the IEC to announce the timeline for the upcoming parliamentary election as soon as possible and take required measurements accordingly.

TEFA calls on National Unity Government that in accordance to their commitment; establish the election reform commission and take appropriate steps for essential reforms to ensure election's transparency and credibility. TEFA believes that holding parliamentary elections without reform will challenge the whole election process again.

TEFA welcomes the recent move by Wolsi jerga's Justice Commission to amend the Law on the Structure, Duties and Authorities of the electoral commissions. TEFA hopes that members of Wolsi Jerga in coordination with election observing organizations finalize the required amendments to the electoral laws and approve them before parliament's winter recess.

Election observer organizations have begun their efforts for election key reforms. They provided their recommendations in written through several meeting to Wolsi Jerga Justice Commission, however, it seems that lack of interest by some members of the Wolsi Jirga and not establishment of election reform commission by government will negatively affect the timely approval of required amendments. TEFA calls on leadership of National Unity Government to hold district council elections concurrently with parliamentary elections, in accordance to their commitment.

Post 2014 election's disputes and challenges caused a great damage to the election process and damaged public trust as well. Therefore, it is essential that before holding any elections in Afghanistan, previous issues must be addressed and reform mechanisms must be established to prevent their re-occurrence.

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