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Election Watch Organization of Afghanistan

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EWA Views on Establishment of Electoral Reform Commission

The Election Watch Organization of Afghanistan (EWA) welcomes the presidential decree on establishment of electoral reform commission after months of delay, hoping the body will accomplish the necessities and expectations for reform of electoral system.

EWA evaluated the list of the reform body members comparing with suggestions of civil society on composition and procedures of members of the body, which they previously shared with the government officials. EWA believes the role of civil society is far less than the individuals representing the government, formerly election rival teams.

As seen, the principle of expertise and professionalism in the field of election is not properly took into consideration in selection of the body members, with the role of professional, skilled, and observation institutions are completely ignored.

With regard to this matter, EWA concerns the reform process took political dimensions and fundamental reform, which is dream and main demand of people and civil society might ignored.

For removal of this flaw, EWA suggests relevant commission to proceed its work in close cooperation with civil society, such as election expert institutions and apply their views and suggestions in fulfilling the requirements of the electoral system in attempt to the process to be fruitful as expected.

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