

10 / 12 / 2016

**House of Representatives submitted the Audit Bureau's report to the Finance Committee without discussion**

**RASSED calls the Lower House to adopt electronic voting and publish absences**

**13 Standing Committees held 16 meetings during the fifth week**

**6 Parliamentary blocs registered at the General Secretariat**

During the fifth week of the first Ordinary Session, the House of Representatives held two legislative session and one oversight session, while 13 Standing Committees held 16 meetings: 5 legislative meetings, 7 oversight meetings and 4 organizational meetings. The Finance Committee held three meetings to discuss the draft laws for the State Budget and the Budget of Independent Government Units for 2017.

During the fifth week, 6 Parliamentary blocs registered at the General Secretariat, where the statutory period for the registration of parliamentary blocs ended on December 7, 2016.

During a Lower House session held last Sunday, the draft Petroleum Derivatives Act of 2016 was submitted. The amended Draft Law of the National Center for Human Rights 2016, the Rate of Patents Act of 2016 and the amended Law for the Higher Health Council for the year 2016 were also submitted to the competent committees.

The House submitted the Audit Bureau report for the year 2015 to the Finance Committee without first discussing it in house, which is the first time this has been done. The Parliament normally discusses the Audit Bureau report and then submits it to the Finance Committee.

The Lower House rejected a Parliamentary memorandum demanding a re-vote on the amended Public Security draft law, which was passed by the Council and submitted to the second legislative chamber (Senate). However, the Parliament's decision to reject the memorandum was consistent with the rules of procedure of the House of Representatives.

The House held an oversight session during the fifth week according to the Rules of Procedure, which state that one oversight session should be held every two legislation sessions. However, the electronically voting mechanism resolution was not adopted by the House during the legislative sessions. RASSED calls on Parliament to adopt such a voting method to enhance the transparency of its work.

RASSED praises publishing the list of attendees and absent MP's by the General Secretariat during the oversight session, which was held on Tuesday. 100 MP's attended the session, and the General Secretariat published 14 unexcused absences.

During the fifth week, the Standing Committees held 16 meetings: 5 legislative meetings, 7 oversight meetings and 4 organizational meetings.

The Public Freedoms and Human Rights Committee approved the amending Law of the National Centre for Human Rights for the year 2016, the Joint Committee (Legal, Economic and Investment) approved the Organization Dealing in Foreign Stock Markets draft law, the Public Service and Transport Committee passed the Public Transport of Passengers law No. 33 for the year 2010, which was submitted from the Senate, while the Energy and Mineral Resources Committee discussed the Energy Regulatory Regulating Commission Act of 2015, and the Administrative Committee discussed the amended draft law of the Jordanian Armed Forces for the year 2013.

The Labour and Social Development Committee held two oversight meetings, while the Public Services and Transport Committee, the Energy and Mineral Resources Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee, the Education Committee and the Agriculture and Water Committee held one oversight meeting each.

The Women and Family Affairs Committee, the Public Freedoms and Human Rights Committee and the Countryside and the Desert Committee and Palestine Committee held a meeting to develop a plan that includes a mechanism for future work.