Afghanistan Watchdog Warns of Deadlock if Selection Body Faces Obstacle

KABUL - A number of individuals in the presidential palace administration are preventing the selection committee for commissioners and election institutions from beginning work and are seeking to delay the practical process of electoral reforms, Afghanistan transparency watchdog said. Afghanistan watchdog warned that if the selection committee for the commissioners does not start to work in early time, the electoral reforms process will face a serious obstacle.

"Unfortunately, a few individuals in secretariat affairs are trying to build a long process that the practical reforms process does not start," Munir Ahmad Ayoubi Zalai, head of Transparent Election Foundation of Afghanistan said. In the meantime, election observers say that all of institutions have increased their representatives in the selection committee and there is no reason for delaying the process.

They noticed that by delaying the practical process of electoral reforms, the international community will no longer support the upcoming elections as well as ballot boxes will not be filled with Afghan's voting cards.

But the Presidential Council said to consider the reason for delaying the work is that the Human Rights and Civil Society representatives are not yet introduced. Furthermore, was unsuccessful to have the comments ... (More on P6.7)

US Spent $43Mln of Taxpayers’ Money on Afghanistan Gas Station

WASHINGTON - The Department of Defense paid $43 million into an “ill-conceived” project to build a gas station in Afghanistan — an erring waste of taxpayer’s money and 148 times more than it should have cost, according to a government watchdog. Even more troubling, according to the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction" report ... (More on P6.7)

700 journalists killed worldwide over the past decade

KABUL - 700 journalists have been killed worldwide over the past decade for bringing news and information to the public. The United Nations says only one in ten cases committed against media workers over the past decade has led to a conviction. "Impunity emboldens the perpetrators of the crimes and at the same time has a chilling effect on society including journalists themselves. Impunity breeds impunity and feeds into a vicious circle." A statement released by the UN on the eve of International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists. The United Nations ... (More on P6.10)

Ulumi Retains Seat as Parliament Avoids No-Confidence Vote

KABUL - The MPs on Monday nominated from going for no-confidence motion against the Interior Minister Nourulhaq Ulumi who was summoned to Weleda Jarga (Lower house Parliament) over country’s deteriorating security situation.

A total of 131 lawmakers were present at the House of Representatives. Of them, 11 MPs called minister’s remarks, including key and decided to not go for no-confidence vote: Calling the Taliban war criminals. Ulumi promised the House he will take the ... (More on P6.10)

Afghanistan to Accept its Citizens Deported from Germany

KABUL - Afghanistan said it will take back all its citizens being deported from Germany as the European countrystring... (More on P6.10)

First-Ever Afghanistan-Bound Gasoil Traded at Iran Energy Stock

TEHRAN - The first trading of gasoil produced by the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) and bound to Afghanistan was conducted on the Iran Energy Exchange (BENE) on Monday. The advance payment for the 1,000-ton gasoil ... (More on P6.7)