



European Union
Election Assessment Team Libya 2012



الإتحاد الأوروبي
فريق تقييم الانتخابات ليبيا 2012

Press Release

European Union Election Assessment Team to thoroughly assess national election in Libya

Tripoli, 22 June 2012. Following an invitation by the High National Election Commission to observe the 2012 General National Congress Election, the European Union has deployed an Election Assessment Team (EU EAT) to Libya to assess the conduct of the electoral process. The EU EAT is headed by Mr Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, Member of the European Parliament. The mandate of the EU EAT is to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the electoral process and the extent to which the election complies with Libyan law as well as international standards for democratic elections. The EU EAT is independent from the Delegation of the European Union to Libya, the European Commission and the EU Member States, and it is impartial and neutral in its findings.

Following his arrival to Tripoli on Wednesday, 20 June 2012, Mr Alexander Graf Lambsdorff has held discussions with political parties and independent candidates, civil society organizations as well as national and international observers. The Head of the EU EAT stressed the importance of the 7 July 2012 election saying that:

"This election is the first opportunity for Libyans to choose their representatives in the national polls after decades. It marks a historic step for the Country and its people. Given the vital role the General National Congress has in appointing the body to draft the Constitution and the Government, the election is crucial for the future of the country."

The Head of the EU EAT also outlined the role of the assessment team noting that:

"We have deployed our regional experts to districts to thoroughly assess the preparation for this election. They will be assessing the conduct of the overall electoral process in 11 out of 13 districts of Libya. They have been and will be meeting a broad range of stakeholders in all country areas in which security situation allows for safe deployment and efficient assessment of the election."

The EU EAT consists of 21 members including 7 core team members and 14 regional experts. The members of the EU EAT assess the legal framework, the work of the election administration, the media environment, the role of civil society and the participation of women and minorities. The EU EAT also evaluates the general electoral context, the electoral campaign, conduct of the poll on voting day, the compilation of results and post-election activities, including complaints and appeals procedures.

Shortly after Election Day, the EU EAT will issue a declaration of its initial findings. A comprehensive final report, including recommendations for future elections, will be published within some two months after the end of election process.

The EU EAT operates in accordance with the "Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and Code of Conduct for International Election Observers" adopted in 2005 at the United Nations in New York by a number of international bodies involved in election observation.

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