



Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments

ACTIVITIES OF THE PROVISIONAL SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF AFGHANISTAN

Intervention by Mr Azzizullah LODIN, Secretary General of the Provisional Assembly

Speaking notes (based on a PowerPoint presentation)

Structure

Total of 11 Directorates have been established for the Secretariat.

Of these Directorates, 3 Directorates function to serve the Wolesi Jirga, 3 Directorates function to serve the Mashrano Jirga and the remaining 5 Directorates function to serve both the Houses.

Recruitment

250 staff have already been recruited from among 800 applicants through open competition based on merits and qualifications.

Another 85 security personnel have also been recruited.

Training

All the staff that have been recruited have followed training programmes conducted for them in Kabul.

Experts from overseas have travelled to Kabul to conduct these training programmes.

More than 170 of staff have been sent to countries such as Italy, Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, Turkey, Netherlands, Germany and France to learn about parliamentary processes and best practices. These study tours will continue in future as well.

A National Seminar is being held for staff on parliamentary processes and best practices.

Budget

46 million Afghanis have been acquired by the Secretary only for renovation purposes and this amount is not to meet the logistic requirements of the National Assembly.

Professional Preparations

The Internal Regulation for the National Assembly has been prepared. Resources and References used were:

- Research and studies carried out by different parliamentary institutions
- Documents from the Constitutional Monarchy period in Afghanistan and documents from previous National Assemblies in Afghanistan
- Internal Regulations from other Parliaments of the world
- International Experts

Regulation for the staff of the Secretariat has been put together.

This Regulation has been drawn up keeping in consideration the existing regulations for government officials and the needs of the National Assembly. Conditions for fellowship and scholarships have been laid down.

Regulations for Security System of the National Assembly have been developed according to the following:

- Parliamentary Immunity
- Security of Parliament Building
- Security of Parliament Sessions
- Security for Parliamentary Members, Cabinet Members and others while commuting to and from the Parliament

Preparing of Parliamentary Expressions

Explanations of Parliamentary terms

Translations of Parliamentary terms

Familiarising the media, educational organisations, state institutions and public with parliamentary terms

Preparation of Informative Brochures

Brochures for Parliamentary members prepared by the Secretariat

Brochures on Internal Regulations for Wolesi Jirga and Mashrano Jirga

Brochures outlining Responsibilities of Parliamentary Members

Brochures on the structure of the Secretariat

Brochure prepared with the assistance of the State University of New York

Brochures on authorities and responsibilities of the National Assembly

Brochures on Legislative Mechanism

Brochures on Elections

Creating a collection of legislative books

Collecting and organising regulations dating from Shah Amanullah up to date, as well as making them available on DVD

Archives

Collecting of all documents related to Wolesi Jirga and Mashrano Jirga between 1964 and 1973

Organising the Legislative Decrees and Legislations for approval by the National Assembly

Making a glossary of all Legislative Decrees produced since the establishment of the Provisional Government

Gathering legal and professional opinions regarding different legislative decrees through the Legal and Professional Research Centre of the Directorate for Parliamentary Affairs

Gathering of legislations that came in to being after the Provisional Government and gathering legal and professional opinions about them

Set up of a Committee for National Assembly Sessions

Organising and relocating Parliamentary Members from provinces in to the capital, Kabul

Availing for logistic and administrative requirements of the Parliamentary Members

Preparing a list of all high ranking national and international figures that will be participating in the Inauguration Session of the National Assembly

Co-ordinating the National Assembly sessions with the Kabul Municipality

Procurement and Logistics

Preparing a list and table of all requirements of the National Assembly

Purchasing of equipment through UNDP