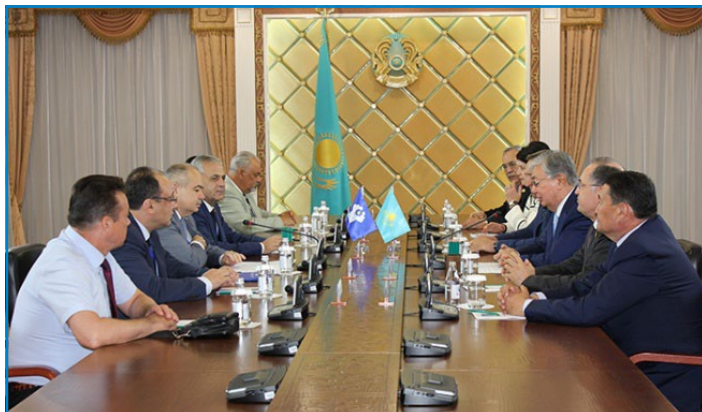


The IPA CIS Observer Team took part in the monitoring of the elections to the Senate of the Parliament of Kazakhstan.

On 27-29 June 2017 the IPA CIS Observer Team took part in the short-term monitoring of the elections to the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The Team included international observers from 6 IPA CIS member nations: the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, and the Republic of Tajikistan, including MPs, representatives of high legislative bodies, and members of the IPA CIS Council Secretariat. Deputy Speaker of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation Ilyas Umakhanov was appointed Coordinator of the Team.

In the course of the short-term monitoring, on June, 27 members of the IPA CIS Observers Team headed by Ilyas Umakhanov met with Speaker of the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kasym-Jomart Tokaev and representatives of the Senate. Kasym-Jomart Tokaev informed the observers about the increased role of the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the system of public administration of the country as a result of the constitutional reform of 2017, as well as about the current election campaign.



Ilyas Umakhanov informed Kasym-Jomart Tokaev about the results of the long-term monitoring and handed over the materials. Both parties agreed on the importance of the international monitoring of elections, noting, in particular, the positive role of the IIMDD IPA CIS and the role of the Assembly in the development of the regional inter-parliamentary cooperation.

On the same day the observers held a meeting with members of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan headed by the CEC Chairman Berik Imashev. The Chairman informed the observers about the registration process and finalization of the list of candidates to the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Ilyas Umakhanov noted that the rotation of the deputy corps during the election campaign was the evidence of the democratic processes taking place in the country.

On the election day, June 28, members of the IPA CIS Observer Team held monitoring in three regions of Kazakhstan (Astana, Akmola and Karaganda regions). The observers were present at all stages of the organization of voting: from the opening of electoral meetings to the counting of votes and the determination of the results of voting.



After the voting the IPA CIS observers held a meeting with Speaker of the Majilis of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nurlan Nigmatulin, during which the observers shared their impressions on the organization of the voting process.



On 29 June Astana hosted the outcome press-conference of the CIS Observer Mission at the elections to the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Ilyas Umakhanov informed the journalists and guests of the press conference that, according to the results of the long-term monitoring conducted by the IPA CIS IIMDD, the legislation of the country regulating the elections to the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan was in line with international standards for democratic elections.

Based on the Findings by the IPA CIS International Observers Team, Ilyas Umakhanov also noted the high level of organization of elections by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan and territorial election commissions.