

IPA CIS Observer Team to Take Part in Monitoring of the Parliamentary Elections in the Republic of Armenia

Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia Galoust Sahakyan invited the IPA CIS Observer Team to monitor the preparation and holding of the election to the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia scheduled for 2 April 2017.

The Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States will form and send a team of observers consisting of parliamentarians from the IPA CIS member nations, as well as members of the IPA CIS Council Secretariat and experts of IIMDD IPA CIS.

The expert group formed on the basis of the IIMDD IPA CIS will carry out long-term monitoring of preparation for the elections to ensure the work of the IPA CIS Observer Team. These efforts will include the analysis of the country's legislation, regulation of the election process considering its compliance with international standards of democratic elections, as well as the monitoring of



the election committees' activity at all levels and the coverage of the election campaign in the media.

As a result of the long-term observation, the experts will prepare analytical and information materials for the monitoring group.

14th European Conference of Electoral Management Bodies to Be Held in the Tavrishesky Palace in May 2017

The Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS Member Nations is engaged in preparation and hosting of the 14th European Conference of Electoral Management Bodies together with the Venice Commission and the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation. The Conference will take place in the Tavrishesky Palace on 15–16 May 2017.

The Conference is expected to bring together heads of electoral management bodies of the CIS and Euro-

pean countries, representatives of international organizations (OSCE PA, PACE, ACEEEO, OSCE ODIHR, etc.), representatives of the European nations in the Venice Commission, as well as MPs of the IPA CIS member nations, and experts in the field of electoral law.

The participants will focus on ways to ensure performance of electoral management bodies as a key element to ensure democratic elections.

The Conference will focus on the work of Electoral Management Bodies, their structure, strengths and possible weaknesses.

The Conference will include four thematic panels dedicated to ways of optimization of electoral management bodies' activities, exchange of good practices and methods of strengthening expertise of electoral management bodies, as well as to the improvement of electoral legislation, development of universal international monitoring standards, and the results of elections in Europe in 2016.

The mentioned topics will be also discussed in the working groups. The final plenary session will follow-up on the conclusions of the Conference.

