

ASSOCIATION DES SECRETAIRES  
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GENERAL OF PARLIAMENTS

**COMMUNICATION**

by

**Mr Abdullah AL MASRI AL FADIL**  
**Secretary General of the House of Representatives of Libya**

on

**“How are Secretary Generals appointed and how do we define the scope for the role?”**

**Istanbul Session**  
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**His Excellency Mr. José Pedro Montero, President of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments (ASGP).**

**Excellencies and Distinguished Colleagues, Secretaries General of National Assemblies and Parliaments,**

**Peace, mercy, and blessings of God be upon you**

**At the outset** of this intervention, it gives me great pleasure to express my profound appreciation for the importance of addressing the mechanism for appointing Secretaries General in national parliaments and assemblies. This topic holds significant institutional value in strengthening parliamentary governance and ensuring the effective administrative and organizational functioning of legislative institutions.

**Raising this issue in our meeting today** embodies our collective commitment to consolidating the principles of transparency and efficiency. It further reflects the prestige of the parliamentary institution and its pivotal role in serving the people.

**It is worth noting that** the mechanisms for appointing Secretaries General vary from one parliament to another, depending on the internal rules and regulations applicable in each country. Appointment may occur by a decision of the Presidency, through an internal vote, or via specific regulatory procedures designed to ensure the selection of highly qualified individuals capable of managing the affairs of the General Secretariat with efficiency and competence.

**In this context, the Internal Regulations of the Libyan House of Representatives, issued under Law No. (4) of 2014,** defined the mechanism for appointing **the Chief of the Diwan** (who represents the General Secretariat of the House of Representatives). **Article (207) stipulates that:** "The Chief of the Diwan of the House of Representatives shall be appointed by a resolution of the House from among three candidates nominated by the Presidency Office, based on professional criteria related to the duties of the position, provided that the candidate receives the approval of the majority of the members present." The Secretary General is responsible for overseeing all departments, divisions, and offices affiliated with the House.

## **Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**This mechanism enshrines** the principles of transparency and institutional oversight. By selecting the Secretary General from among three candidates based on rigorous professional criteria, and subsequently submitting the nomination to the House for a definitive vote, we ensure that the appointee commands the confidence of the majority of members present. Such a process reflects the spirit of internal democracy, reinforces the principle of collective decision-making, and invests the office with profound representational weight and high credibility.

**The significance of this mechanism** lies in its embodiment of institutionalism, granting the position a firm parliamentary legitimacy. This ensures that the incumbent is a figure of consensus among members, thereby safeguarding the independence of the administrative and technical apparatus from any external influences or individual biases. Furthermore, this framework strengthens the separation of powers within the House; it ensures that legislative, oversight, and representative functions remain the exclusive prerogative of the members, while the Secretary General of the House of Representatives manages the technical, administrative, financial, and organizational affairs. This mandate encompasses supervising departments, divisions, and offices; coordinating the vital support required by the House, its members, and its committees; providing specialized technical consultations; following up on the implementation of resolutions; and representing the House in regional and international parliamentary forums.

**In addition, the Secretary General of the House of Representatives** enjoys significant prerogatives, including the appointment of heads of the General Secretariat branches across Libyan cities and the oversight of all technical, administrative, and financial departments. The Secretary General is also tasked with drafting the internal regulations governing the General Secretariat, as well as the specialized statutes for the House's staff. These authorities render the Secretary General a fundamental pillar in ensuring institutional continuity and fostering a stable, efficient organizational environment one that is essential to supporting the legislative and oversight functions of the House.

## **Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**The clarity and precise** definition of these competencies significantly enhance institutional effectiveness and uphold the principles of good governance. This contributes to the building of a robust and efficient administrative apparatus that serves as a cornerstone for legislative and oversight functions. Furthermore, it presents a distinguished image of the Libyan House of Representatives, both

domestically and internationally, as an institution founded on democratic pillars one that accords the highest priority to competence, transparency, and professionalism in selecting its administrative leadership.

**In highlighting the importance of this mechanism,** we consider it a fundamental pillar for ensuring the independence of the parliamentary institution. It strengthens the citizens' trust in their representative assembly, thereby consolidating democratic values and serving the supreme national interest.

**In conclusion, I would like to emphasize** that our discussion today is not merely an organizational matter; rather, it is a reflection of a sincere collective will aimed at developing parliamentary work and strengthening the role of the General Secretariat as a pivotal pillar in the success of the legislative institution. **The adoption of this mechanism** has contributed to building a robust institution, qualified to fulfill its national and international responsibilities and capable of facing challenges with efficiency. This reflects a distinguished image of parliamentary work and reinforces citizens' confidence in their constitutional institutions.

**Thank you for your kind attention, and I wish our meeting every success.**