

Bylaw of the House of Representatives

Law No. 1 of 2006 issuing Bylaw of the House of Representatives

In the Name of the People:

After perusal of the Constitution of the Republic of Yemen and based on House of Representatives' approval of the Bylaw, we issued the Law No. 1 of 2006. Following is its text:

Article (1): Provisions of the Bylaw of House of Representatives accompanying this law shall be put into force.

Article (2): This law shall be put into force and published in the official newspaper as of the date of issuance.

Issued by power of the Constitution on December 16/12/ 1426 Hegira Calendar, corresponding to January 16, 2006.

PART I
Definitions and General Terms

Article (1): Utterances and statements mentioned herein stand for the explanations against each unless the text's context implies something else.

The House: The House of Representatives

Bylaw: Bylaw of the House of Representatives that organizes its progress of work, committees and exercise of all its constitutional powers.

Presidium: Speaker of the House of Representatives and his deputies.

Speaker: Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Committees: Permanent committees or any ad hoc committees formed by House of Representatives.

General Secretariat: The Executive Board of House of Representatives.

Secretary-General: Executive Officer of the General Secretariat of the House of Representatives.

Legislative Term: The Constitutional time period of the House of Representatives is set at six calendar years.

Annual Sessions: the two sessions, which the House of Representatives holds throughout the year.

Ordinary Session: One of the two sessions, which House of Representatives holds during a full year.

Non-Ordinary Sessions: The extraordinary session, which the House of Representatives call for holding in conformity with provisions of Article (74) of the Constitution during the House vacation.

Session: The total number of sittings which the House holds within a month time.

Qualified Majority: The majority of members, as stipulated by the Constitution or the Bylaw.

Absolute Majority: Half the number of members of the House plus one member after excluding those whose seats were declared vacant.

Majority of Attending Members: Half the number of present members plus one member.

Relative Majority: When a subject gets the highest number of votes, compared to others with less votes.

Joint Meeting: It is the joint meeting of members of the House and the Shura Council, which is held on an invitation from the President of the Republic.

Article (2): The House of Representatives is the legislative authority of the state. It shall enact laws, sanction general state policy and the socio-economic plan, and approve government budgets and final accounts. It shall also direct and monitor the activities of the Executive Authority as stipulated by the constitution.

Article (3): The House consists of 301 members, who shall be elected in a secret, free and equal vote directly by the people. The Republic shall be divided into constituencies equal in number of population with a variation of not more than 5% plus or minus. Each constituency shall elect a member to the House of Representatives."

Article (4): The term of the House is six calendar years, starting from the date of its first meeting. The President of the Republic shall call the voters to elect a new House at least sixty days ahead of the expiry date of the existing House. If in extraordinary circumstances, elections cannot be held, the current House continues to function until such circumstances are overcome and new House can be elected.

Article (5): "The House's premises shall be in the capital city of Sana'a. The House shall not hold its meetings outside the capital city except if forcible circumstances make it impossible for the House to hold its meetings/sittings inside the capital city according to a call from the President of the Republic or a proposal from the Presidium. This proposal shall be approved by the majority of members of the House."

Article (6): The House shall hold its sittings permanently/regularly except during months of vacation specified by this Bylaw.

Article (7): A - Sittings of the House shall be open to the public and proceedings of parliamentary sittings shall be published or broadcast by different media. Speeches by any Member of the House shall not be deleted and any member shall not be stopped or prevented from talking unless he/she himself/herself or the House accepts this. But, when a Member of the House's talk harms the dignity of persons and reputation of institutions or damages the national interest, the Presidium shall have the right to direct deletion of his/her speech.

B- The House may hold secret meetings upon the request of its Speaker, the President of the Republic, the Government, or upon the request of at least twenty of its members. The House shall then decide whether the discussion of the subject shall be conducted openly or in closed (secret) sittings."

Article (8): A Member of the House represents all the people, cares for the public interest without any condition or restriction on his/her being a representative."

Article (9): A Member of the House shall, prior to his/her assumption of membership duties, be sworn in/take the constitutional oath before the House in an open sitting.

Following is the constitutional oath: “ I swear by Allah, the Almighty, that I shall be adherent to the Holy Book and Sunni (tradition) of His Messenger, loyally maintain the republican system, respect the Constitution and Law, fully guard the people's interests and freedoms, and maintain unity and independence of the nation and safety of its territory.”

PART II

Components of the House of Representatives

Chapter One

Formations

Article (10): The House of Representatives’ main components are:

1. The Presidium
2. Committees
3. The General Secretariat

Chapter Two

Electing the Presidium

Article (11): At its first sitting, the House takes the following procedures:

- a. Naming the elder members to chair the procedural sitting until the Speaker gets selected.
- b. Reading the President of the Republic's Decree calling the House to hold sessions.
- c. Members of the House shall be sworn in/take the constitutional oath.

Article (12): At its first sitting, the House shall elect a speaker and another three from among its members to constitute its Presidium. The House shall not conduct any discussion prior to electing the Speaker.

Article (13): Electing the Speaker shall be conducted secretly, and under no circumstance, members vote openly (in a televised sitting) or give recommendation. The election procedures shall be conducted as follows:
Prior to the election process, a five-member committee shall be made up to organize the process. Hearing his/her name announced, every member shall be given a sheet to write down name of the member or names of the members whom he/she wants to elect from among the list of candidates. Then, he/she shall put the sheet in the ballot box, and the sheet shall not include names more than the required number of candidates to be elected. Otherwise the vote shall be considered invalid. Upon completion of the election process, the House shall select, based on nomination of the

sitting's chair, a certain number of members to collect votes and count them. The chair of the sitting shall announce the vote result.

Article (14): Speaker of the House and his deputies shall be elected by the absolute majority of members of the House in a secret electoral process. This process shall be conducted in an open sitting, starting with the procedures of nominating and electing the Speaker. This shall be followed by nominating and electing deputies of the Speaker in conformity with the procedures contained in the Bylaw.

Article (15): If one of the candidates doesn't win the absolute majority of votes cast by members of the House, the candidates who win the highest numbers of votes shall be reelected once again. In this case, the relative majority shall be working. If two or more members win equal votes, priority shall be given to the one selected by the draw.

Article (16): A- The House Presidium shall hold a meeting after being elected directly in order to distribute tasks among deputies of the Speaker.

B- Tasks shall be distributed among deputies of the Speaker as follows:

1. Deputy Speaker for Organizing and Technical Affairs.
2. Deputy Speaker for Legislative and Overseeing Affairs.
3. Deputy Speaker for Parliamentary Affairs and External Relations

C- The Bylaw organizing the House components shall specify in detail tasks of deputies of the Speaker.

Article (17): The term of the House Presidium shall be two calendar years starting from the date of the House's first meeting. The Presidium shall be elected at the first meeting following completion of the term according to provisions and procedures contained in this Bylaw.

Article (18): In case seat of the Speaker or one of his deputies may become vacant for any reason in conformity with the constitutional provisions and this Bylaw, the House shall elect the replacement within a week time as of the date of the seat's being declared vacant if the House's session is going on. Also, the replacement shall be elected within the first week following the House meeting if the seat is declared vacant during the House's vacation.

Chapter Three Jurisdictions of the House Presidium

Article (19): Presidium of the House of Representatives shall be responsible before the House for all its duties. It shall exercise the powers delegated to it under the Constitution and this Bylaw.

Article (20): A- The Presidium shall meet periodically and it may hold an extraordinary meeting when it is necessary. It shall take its decisions by the majority

of members' votes. If the voting results are equally divided, votes of the side including the Speaker shall be given precedence over the other.

B- At the beginning and at the end of every session, the presidium shall call heads of permanent committees, the Secretary-General, representatives of parliamentary caucuses and those concerned to discuss the organization and development of the House's business.

Article (21): In compliance with what is contained in the Article (20) of this Bylaw, the Presidium shall hold a meeting on the Monday preceding the session to evaluate works of the previous session and call the House for holding sittings.

Article (22): In compliance with tasks contained in the Constitution, Law and this Bylaw, the Presidium shall be in charge of supervising activities of the House and its committees, chair its sittings and take the necessary procedures to facilitate tasks of the House and its committees. It shall be in charge of supervising and monitoring works of the general secretariat and its formations. In order to achieve its purposes, the Presidium shall exercise the following tasks:

1. Discuss and approve agenda of the presidium's meetings.
2. Distribute tasks among deputies of the Speaker to ensure involvement of each one in specific tasks according to the Organizing Bylaw.
3. Discuss and approve project of the House agenda and present it to members for approval by the beginning of every session.
4. Call for holding the House's ordinary and non-ordinary sittings and chair its meetings in accordance with provisions of the Constitution and the Bylaw.
5. Study the project of the House's budget and final account, and refer them to the Financial Committee for review. The committee then presents them along its reports to the House for discussion and approval.
6. Correct contents of the House meetings' minutes that face objections according to the House's decisions.
7. Suggest a committee to count votes and conduct the draw, as well as any other matters emerging during the House sittings.
8. Follow up implementation of the recommendations approved by the House and forward related reports to the House at the beginning of every session.
9. Select delegations to represent the House in and outside Yemen via consultations with heads of parliamentary caucuses and present the reports, which the delegations prepare, to the House for review.
10. Discuss and approve the organizing, legal, technical, administrative and financial structure of the General Secretariat.
11. Call for periodic and extraordinary meetings of committee heads and rapporteurs, representatives of parliamentary caucuses and those concerned to discuss any presented subjects.
12. Regarding affairs of the House employees, the Presidium shall exercise the powers, similar to that which laws, decisions and bylaws delegate to the House of Ministers, and the ministries of finance and civil service with respect to the affairs of ministries and employees.
13. Strengthen the House parliamentary relations with other regional and international brotherly and friendly parliaments, and parliamentary unions.

14. Set a media policy for the House to express its will and reflect what takes place in its general sittings, as well as the discussions and decisions of its committees. This policy aims to create a public opinion interacting with the House's legislative and overseeing role and enhancing the democratic process.
15. Ensure that the permanent and special committees accomplish their duties and forward a report to the House on the performance level of each committee at the beginning of every session.
16. Any other task given by the House.

Chapter Four Jurisdictions of the Speaker of the House of Representatives

Article (23): The speaker is the one who represents the House in communicating with other bodies according to the House's will, show results reached by his/her meetings, contacts and visits and supervise all the activities in the House.

Article (24): In compliance with authorities delegated to the speaker under provisions of the Constitution and this Bylaw, he/she shall be in charge of the following:

1. Chairing meetings of the presidium and the House, and opening and adjourning sittings in conformity with provisions of this Bylaw.
2. Permitting members to speak and assigning the topic of discussion according to the agenda and in compliance with provisions of this Bylaw.
3. Clarifying any matter that seems to be unclear.
4. Crystallizing and excerpting viewpoints and proposals reached by the House's discussions and transforming them into primary and specific headings, presenting them for vote, and bringing together the members' viewpoints on the topic of the sitting.
5. Announcing any decisions issued by the House.
6. Signing agreements and contracts in the name of the House, or any eligible member, who may be mandated for the task in light of the Organizing Bylaw.
7. Maintaining stability of order during the House sittings, and to achieve this task, the House has the right to ask its guards and policemen for help when required.
8. Exercising powers of the prime minister with regard to affairs of the House employees.
9. Transferring subjects, drafts and letters to the concerned committees.
10. In case the Speaker is absent, his jurisdictions are carried out by one of the presidium members authorized to act on his behalf.
11. Any other jurisdictions delegated by the House or presidium.

Chapter Five Formation of Committees and their tasks

Article (25): According to provisions of the Article (27) of this Bylaw, the House shall constitute, based on a suggestion from the presidium in its first session, its permanent committees from among its members. These committees shall be

reconstituted per two years. The committees shall exercise their powers to accomplish their duties and present them to the House. The House may constitute special committees to study specific topics when required.

Article (26): The committees are assisting apparatuses that help the House exercise its legislative and overseeing jurisdictions. Doing their tasks, these committees may directly summon, via the approval of the majority of the House members, the ministerial committee's members and the concerned executive officials, and demand them to provide substantial information and documents supporting their performance. Also, they may, via the House or who is acting on its behalf, summon the Prime Minister or the one acting on his behalf.

Article (27): The presidium shall nominate members of permanent committees based on the members' desire, taking into account major, experience and competence of nominees. Every committee shall be made up of not less than nine members nor more than eighteenth members, and the presidium shall present this to the House for approval. Any member may not participate in the membership of another committee unless the House approves this.

Article (28): A- The following permanent committees shall be formed:

1. Constitutional & Legal Affairs Committee
2. Development, Oil & Minerals Committee
3. Trade & Industry Committee
4. Financial Affairs Committee
5. Education Committee
6. Higher Education, Youth & Sports Committee
7. Information, Culture & Tourism Committee
8. Services Committee
9. Public Health & Population Committee
10. Transportation & Telecommunication Committee
11. Agriculture, Irrigation & Fisheries Committee
12. Workforce & Social Affairs Committee
13. Foreign & Expatriate Affairs Committee
14. Justice & Endowment Committee
15. Sheria Laws Legislation Committee
16. Defense & Security Committee
17. Local Authority Committee
18. Petitions & Complaints Committee
19. Public Freedoms & Human Rights Committee
20. Water & Environment Committee

B- The House may establish and constitute other permanent committees, or merge two or more permanent committees, along with specifying their tasks in a way not contravening provisions of the Constitution and this Bylaw.

C- From among their members, the committees may form sub-committees to supervise any internal sectors and activities, which are part of the concerned committee's tasks.

Article (29): A- Each committee shall elect a head and a rapporteur from among its members, and it may have one or more of the House employees to work as its secretary.

B- In case the committee head is absent, the rapporteur may act on his/her behalf. When both are absent, the elder one of the present committee members may replace them.

Article (30): In compliance with provisions of the Constitution, each permanent committee in the House shall exercise the jurisdictions delegated to it under this Bylaw.

Article (31): Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing draft laws, treaties and agreements from the constitutional and legal viewpoint and then providing the House with its viewpoint on these matters.
- b. Studying any draft laws, agreements or treaties transferred to it and providing the House with a report on this regard.
- c. Studying draft laws concerned with the House of Ministers and its affiliates
- d. Providing any constitutional and legal viewpoints demanded by the House, the presidium, ten of the House members, or one of its committees on any topic presented for discussion.
- e. Engaging with the committees concerned with reviewing draft laws in their final formulas in accordance with provisions of the Article (125) of this Bylaw.
- f. Engaging with other committees concerned with reviewing bylaw provisions and decisions that place laws in effect to ensure their compatibility with the laws and providing the House with a report on this respect.
- g. Reviewing laws and executive bylaws and ensure their compliance with the Constitution and the Law, as well as ensure there is no contradiction between texts and provisions of effective laws.

Article (32): Development, Oil and Minerals Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and studying plans, programs, laws and agreements concerned with development and investment projects.
- b. Engaging with the other committees concerned with reviewing and studying projects of development loans.
- c. Reviewing and studying agreements and contracts concerned with oil, gas and minerals.
- d. Overseeing the implementation of plans, programs, agreements, contracts and loans, as well as all the internal activities, which are part of its duties.

Article (33): Trade and Industry Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and studying draft laws, agreements, plans and programs concerned with supply, trade, industry and industrial investment.

- b. Overseeing and following up commitment to the criteria of quality, specifications, standards and the level of implementing plans and programs concerned with supply and trade.

Article (34): Financial Affairs Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Studying all the subjects of relevance to taxation, fees and general cost laws.
- b. Studying draft laws, agreements and loans concerned with the state's public money, financial institutions, banks and revenue-related interests.
- c. Studying the state's general budget, any additional budgets, private funds, and institutions of public and mixed sectors and their final accounts.
- d. Overseeing revenue-related institutions and interests and ensuring that banks and financial institutions perform in accordance with laws of their establishment.
- e. Studying and reviewing the House's budget and its final account, and supervising the annual inventory-making of the House's treasury and property.
- f. Following up the implementation of general budgets and controlling revenues and spending of financial institutions.
- g. Studying and reviewing any financial and monetary policies taken by the government and assessing influence of these policies on the economic and social aspects of life.
- h. Discussing any subjects it receives from the House or its Presidium.

Article (35): Education Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Studying and reviewing draft laws, agreements, loans, plans and programs concerned with education and its branches: general, technical and vocational, at all the educational levels.
- b. Overseeing implementation of educational curricula, programs and laws to ensure they are applied properly.

Article (36): Higher Education, Youth and Sports Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Studying and reviewing any matters related with higher education and scientific research.
- b. Studying and reviewing any matters of relevance to youth and sporting activities.
- c. Overseeing implementation of plans, programs and laws concerned with higher education, scientific research, youth and sports.
- d. Observing attention of the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research and cultural attachés to Yemeni scholars abroad.

Article (37): Information, Culture and Tourism Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and studying any subjects related with media, culture, publications, newspapers, tourism, antiquities, arts and book houses.
- b. Observing and assessing any media policies, which are set and approved by the government.

- c. Overseeing performance of agencies and institutions working in the areas of media, culture, tourism, antiquities and book houses to ensure they contribute to achieving economic, social and cultural goals in a way not contravening the Islamic values.

Article (38): Services Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and studying plans, programs, agreements and legislations concerned with construction, housing and urban planning.
- b. Overseeing the implementation of programs and plans in the concerned agencies.

Article (39): Public Health and Population Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and studying any matters of relevance to population, population activities and public health.
- b. Overseeing all what is related with, population, population activities and public health.

Article (40): Transportation and Telecommunication Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and studying any matters related with land, sea and air transportation, and telecommunication and information technology.
- b. Overseeing the activities of agencies concerned with these services.

Article (41): Agriculture, Irrigation and Fisheries Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and studying any matters of relevance to agriculture, fisheries, livestock, irrigation, rural development, forests, and cooperative, productive and marketing societies, as well as other concerned institutions and agencies.
- b. Studying and reviewing any subjects related with dams and water barriers in association with Water and Environment Committee.
- c. Observing and assessing any agriculture and irrigation policies taken by the government.
- d. Overseeing activities of agencies operating in these areas.
- e. Observing and assessing any policies concerned with fisheries and livestock, projects and performance of societies, firms and factories operating in fisheries and livestock.

Article (42): Workforce and Social Affairs Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Studying and reviewing any matters related with labor, civil service and administrative reform.
- b. Studying and reviewing matters of job security, pensions and social insurance.
- c. Studying and reviewing all the subjects concerned with the policies of training staff working in different fields.
- d. Overseeing the implementation of plans, programs and legislations concerned with labor, civil service, administrative reform, job security, pensions, social insurance and career development programs.

Article (43): Foreign and Expatriate Affairs Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Examining and studying international agreements and conventions, which is part of its tasks, and being in charge of subjects related with foreign policies, international cooperation and Yemen's delegations abroad.
- b. Studying and reviewing protocols and agreements of cooperation between the House and other parliaments in coordination with the Presidium.
- c. Observing all external parliamentary activities and function, and engaging with the Presidium in setting the general frame of the House's parliamentary relations. It is also tasked to participate in the implementation of activities and suggesting policies to develop and enhance the House's foreign relations.
- d. Following up the implementation of agreements and protocols between Yemen and other brotherly and friendly states.
- e. Studying and reviewing matters of relevance to expatriate affairs, observing performance of the concerned agencies, extending assistance to expatriates and overcoming any difficulties expatriates may face in Yemen and abroad to ensure their continued liaison with their homeland.
- f. Studying and reviewing any matters related with refugees and their issues, and observing performance of agencies concerned with refugees to ensure their wellbeing and facilitate their return to their homelands.

Article (44): Justice, Endowment and Guidance Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Studying and reviewing draft laws and agreements, as well as other subjects of relevance to justice, endowment, hajj (pilgrimage) and guidance.
- b. Observing the implementation of laws, bylaws and regulations concerned with justice, endowment and guidance.
- c. Engaging with Public Freedoms and Human Rights Committee in overseeing the situations of prisons and prisoners.
- d. Observing performance of the Ministry of Endowment and Guidance and strengthening its role to ensure protection of property and endowments and prevent any misuse of them.

Article (45): Sheria Laws Legislation Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Studying and reviewing all the matters concerned Islamic Sheria legislations and overseeing their performance.
- b. Providing any Islamic Sheria-related viewpoints demanded by the House upon a request signed by at least ten members of the House , or any viewpoints the Presidium or one of the House committees ask for to substantiate the discussion of any subject.

Article (46): Defense and Security Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and studying any legislations, agreements or conventions concerned with defense and security, as well as the affairs of martyrs' families, war prisoners and handicapped.
- b. Overseeing performance of all the military and security institutions and agencies.

- c. Discussing any armed forces and security issues, which the House transfers to it.
- d. Overseeing the implementation of military and security laws, and contracts and agreements.

Article (47): Local Authority Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Studying and reviewing draft laws concerned with the local authority, administrative units, local councils, and agencies and societies affiliated with it.
- b. Overseeing implementation of the local authority and administrative division laws, and other relevant bylaws and decisions. Also, it is mandated to monitor activities of the Ministry of Local Administration, administrative units, local councils, local authority's apparatuses and any agencies and societies affiliated with it.
- c. Reviewing and studying legislations concerned with the Ministry of Local Administration.
- d. Overseeing activities of Tribal Affairs Authority.

Article (48): Petitions and Complaints Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and examining petitions and complaints the House transfers to it and providing the House with reports containing suggestions and viewpoints to resolve any petitions or complaints.
- b. Following up the agencies concerned with implementing any recommendations the House issues with regard to petitions and complaints.

Article (49): Public Freedoms and Human Rights Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Reviewing and studying draft laws and agreements related with public freedoms and human rights.
- b. Reviewing, studying and following up any issues concerned with public freedoms and human rights and defending these freedoms and rights in accordance with the Constitution and effective laws.
- c. Overseeing performance of the concerned agencies to ensure proper application of public freedoms and human rights laws and prevent any violations.

Article (50): Water and Environment Committee shall be concerned with:

- a. Studying and reviewing draft laws, agreements and conventions concerned with water, environment and sanitation. This includes resources, use of water and water installations.
- b. Studying and reviewing any matters related with dams and water barriers in association with Agriculture and Irrigation Committee.
- c. Studying and reviewing the environmental effect as stated by legislations, agreements and conventions in cooperation with other concerned committees.
- d. Observing and assessing any water and environment-related policies, plans and programs and overseeing activities of agencies operating in this area.

- e. Following up and reviewing commitment to criteria, specifications and standards of environmental safety, any studies on the environmental effect and any industrial, agricultural, exploration and service activities.

Article (51): The permanent committees shall, in light of jurisdictions of each, exercise their legislative tasks through the following:

- a. Studying and reviewing draft laws, agreements and conventions, which the House receives from the government and forwards to them.
- b. Studying proposals of draft laws, which the House receives from members of the House and forwards to them (permanent committees) after it approves discussion of the proposals.
- c. Expressing opinion on the proposal of amending draft laws, which members of the House give them at least 24 hours ahead of their discussion at the House. Also, these committees can give their viewpoints on any proposals, which they receive at the sitting, during which the House may discuss the draft laws prior to being referred to the concerned committee according to provisions of the Bylaw.
- d. Discussing any subject or proposal they receive from the House or the Presidium and doing any other duties delegated to them in accordance with this Bylaw.

Article (52): The permanent committees shall, in light of jurisdictions of each, exercise the following overseeing tasks:

- a. Following up the government's implementation of what was contained in its general program forwarded to House of Representatives, the House's comments on it and any commitments it undertook before the House.
- b. Ensuring that the state's general budget, other budgets of economic units, independent and additional budgets, budgets of private funds, their financial statement and the investment program per year are properly implemented. Also, they shall be responsible for applying content of the House's report on this regard.
- c. Following up the government to present the budget final account on the constitutionally specified time and providing the House with a report on this respect.
- d. Observing the government and its agencies to verify implementation of laws, bylaws and decisions and ensure that executive bylaws are issued in away not contravening the relevant legal texts.
- e. Observing the government's implementation of the House's recommendations.
- f. Studying and analyzing any information, data and documents, which the committees demand from executive offices at the time of studying any matter related with performance of their overseeing tasks.
- g. Studying reports coming from the Central Organization for Control and Audit and providing the House with reports on this regard.

Article (53): A- Each committee shall have an office made up of a number of consultants, researchers, lawmakers, technicians, experts, specialists and secretaries according to the nature of work per committee. These people shall help the committee in conducting studies and researches related with its legislative and overseeing works

and in preparing reports and minutes. The office shall be presided over by an employee with at least a general manager grade. This employee shall be appointed under a decision by the Speaker based on nomination of the concerned committee.

B- During its works, the committee may ask experienced members of the House or employees of the House's legal and technical units for help while conducting studies and researches, collecting data and information and analyzing its tasks. It may also seek the help of one of the experts, academics, university teachers or government officials in any subject. Under no circumstance, these people may participate in the vote.

Article (54): A- The House committees may ask ministries, interests, public and mixed sector institutions to provide them with any data required for studying a subject presented for discussion. These agencies shall provide any required data.

B- The House committees may directly demand presence of any minister or the one acting on his/her behalf, or chairmen of central apparatuses, general institutions and agencies and economic units, who are concerned with the top which is under discussion. Those concerned shall provide the committees with explanations and data that are of any help to them while performing their duties and exercising their jurisdictions. These officials may not have the right to vote, but their viewpoints shall be contained in the meeting's minute, as well as the report due to be forwarded to the House.

C- In event the concerned minister doesn't respond to the committee's demand for the second time, the committee shall provide the House with a report thereon in order for the House to summon this minister and question him/her about the reasons for his/her absence.

Article (55): A- Permanent committees shall be provided with resolutions and bylaws organizing work of ministries, agencies and institutions covered by the jurisdictions of each committee. Also, they shall be provided with reports and documents that make the members of the concerned committee in permanent contact with activities of the concerned ministry and its progress of business. Copies of the republican decrees and decisions of the Council of Ministers shall be kept in the House's library to be viewed by the committees at any time.

B- The House committees may demand the ministries, agencies and institutions covered by the jurisdictions of each committee to provide automated information liaison in order for each committee to have an easy access to any required information.

Article (56): Discussing any draft law, the concerned committee may ask for all the studies, stats, documents, details and data, which the government depended on when preparing this draft law. It may demand the presence of concerned people, who contributed to the draft law presented for discussion, in order to let its members know about the necessary details concerning the technical aspects and goals of the law.

Article (57): The House committees may hold sittings in the presence of citizens, pressmen, employees or those concerned in order to utilize their information or viewpoints on any issue or subject under discussion.

Article (58): The Speaker or the one acting on his behalf may provide head of the concerned committee with the remarks, which, he believes, are necessary for organizing the committee's procedures and work system. He may send any relevant documents to the concerned committee. The head of the committee shall show any documents or remarks, he/she receive from the Speaker or his deputy, to the committee members.

Article (59): The Presidium shall provide the committees with the periodic reports and any data and information coming from the Central Organization for Control and Audit, or the government, its apparatuses and institutions, or any reports forwarded by one of the House committees to let the committees know about activities of executive offices at different levels. This aims to help the House committees analyze and assess activities of the government's executive offices, and provide the House with reports thereon when required.

Article (60): Each committee shall hold its meetings upon a request from its head or the one acting on his/her behalf, or upon a request from the Speaker. Each committee shall be called for the session if one-third of its members demands this, but this call shall be made at least 24 hours ahead of the committee's meeting. The members shall be notified of the meeting agenda enclosed with projects and documents of the subject under discussion.

Article (61): At the begging of every session, each one of the permanent committees of the House shall set an agenda covering priorities, and legislative and overseeing tasks delegated to each committee during the session. The agenda shall be presented to the Presidium to take the necessary measures for making programs a success.

Article (62): The permanent committees may hold their meetings during the House's session to accomplish the duties required from them. Any postponement or adjourning of the House's sittings shall not prevent the committees from holding their meetings in order to present what they have accomplished to the House during its session. The Parliament Speaker or the head of the concerned committee may call the committee for a meeting during session intervals when required.

Article (63): Discussing a particular subject, each committee may refer this subject to one or more of its members, or to the subcommittee to study it and forward a report on it to the main committee.

Article (64): The committees, involved in discussing a single subject, may hold a joint meeting. In this case, the elder head and rapporteur of any one of the involved committees shall be the chair and rapporteur of the joint meeting, respectively. For the joint meeting to be valid, the majority of members per committee shall be present. No decisions shall be correct unless the majority of present members agree.

Article (65): A- No committees' meetings shall be valid unless the majority of members of these committees attend. Decisions and recommendations shall be taken

by votes of the absolute majority of attending members . Members of the committee may not discuss the report forwarded by their committee at the House unless this is for clarification. An exception from this is when one of the members had no access to one point or more while discussing the subject within the committee.

B- Every Member of the House may attend meetings of the committee, of which he/she is not a member, and he/she may have the right to discuss and give his viewpoint as part of the committee, but shall have no right to vote.

Article (66): On each of the committees' meeting, a minute shall be written, thereby including names of the present and absent members, a summary of discussions and texts of decisions and recommendations. This minute shall be signed by the committee's secretary, rapporteur and head.

Article (67): In event the required quorum for holding meetings of any committee is incomplete, the meeting shall be postponed for the following day, on condition the secretariat of the concerned committee shall notify members of the new appointment. If the quorum is still incomplete on the following day, the meeting shall be valid with the present members as a micro committee, and any decisions reached by this committee shall be presented to the main committee. No decisions taken by any committee shall be valid unless they are approved by the majority of attending members, the number of which shall not be less than one-third of the members per committee plus one member. If the required quorum for taking any decision during three notified consecutive meetings has not been completed, the micro committee may forward its report to the House.

Article (68): The committee shall give the Speaker a report on any subject referred to it within two weeks following referral of the subject. The Presidium may grant the committee a new deadline or refer the subject to another special committee. The House, in case of urgency, shall approve discussion of the subject while the committees' reports shall not be discussed until the passage of 48 hours following distribution and reading of the reports.

Article (69): At the beginning of every ordinary session, the committees shall resume discussion of the outstanding draft laws by itself without any need for referring this draft once again. Regarding the reports of draft laws, which the House started to discuss at a previous session, the House may discuss these reports in their case during the previous session.

Article (70): Based on the Presidium's proposal, the House may review the formation of any one of the permanent committees after one year of its formation in the light of activities of each committee, the approved plans and the subjects referred to it.

Article (71): A- Any member, who has been absent from five consecutive meetings or ten inconsecutive meetings without any acceptable excuse during the House's session, shall be dismissed from the committee's membership. The committee shall inform the Presidium about the absence of any member in order to nominate his/her replacement.

B- If a member has been absent from three special committee's meetings without any acceptable excuse, the Presidium shall be notified to replace him/her by another member.

C- With the aim of applying what has been stated in Paragraph A, Each committee shall forward to the House a report on its activities and presence of its members following every ordinary session. The House shall take a decision thereon.

D- Any committees, other than the joint and special committees, may not hold their meetings in the morning shift during the House's session unless the House or its presidium agrees.

Article (72): A- The Presidium shall observe the presence and absence of committees' members, and if the attendance sheets reveal that a member or more has exceeded the maximum absence rate, stipulated by the Article (71) of this Bylaw, the Presidium shall nominate the replacement (substitute) and introduce him/her to the House for approval.

B- If the Presidium realizes that one of the committees doesn't perform the tasks delegated to it in accordance with provisions of this Bylaw, it (the Presidium) shall investigate the reasons behind the poor performance first. If such doesn't work, the Presidium shall nominate other members for this committee and present their names to the House for approval.

B- The allowance shall be doubled if the committees hold a meeting during an official holiday, the House vacation or after the House's sittings are over on condition the meeting shall be dedicated to work.

C- An allowance shall be allocated for the Committee's secretaries or the consultants, researchers and legalists. This allowance shall be neither more than 70 percent nor less than 50 percent of the meeting allowance paid to per committee member.

D- Members of committees shall sign on the attendance sheets at the end of each meeting.

Article (74): A- Upon a request signed by at least ten of its members, the House of Representatives may form a special committee or instruct one of its fact- finding committees to investigate any issue which is contrary to public interest or to investigate the actions of any ministry, government agency, board, public/mixed sector's corporations, or local councils. To carry out such investigations, the committee may gather proof and hold hearings by seeking testimony from any party/person it deems necessary. All executive and concerned authorities shall comply by laying all information or documentation they possess at the disposal of the relevant committee.

B- In case no response has been made to the special committee's request, this committee shall submit a report to the House on this matter and then the concerned minister shall be summoned to be questioned about why he/she made no response.

Chapter Six

Formation of the General Secretariat and Assigning its tasks

Article (75): A- The House shall have a general secretariat named, 'General Secretariat of the House of Representatives.' This secretariat shall be made up of a Secretary-General with a minister post grade, Assistant Secretary-General with a deputy minister post grade, and a number of specialized circles/ divisions.

B- The House Presidium shall nominate the secretary general and his/her deputy, and they both shall be approved by the majority of the members of the house, as well as a presidential decree.

C- Any candidate for the post of the Secretary-General or the Assistant Secretary-General shall meet the following requirements:

1. Be a Yemeni citizen.
2. Shall not be less than 30 years old.
3. Have a university degree at least.
4. Shall be of good character and conduct, perform his/her religious duties and have no court convictions against him/her for committing crimes that contradict the rules of honor and honesty, unless he/she was reprieved.
5. Shall have at least five years of administrative experience.

Article (76): The Secretary-General shall be the executive official of the House's General Secretariat. He/she shall also be the direct official before the Presidium and receive directives from the Speaker or his deputy based on the type of jurisdiction. The House may suggest a substitute for the Secretary-General if he/she commits a serious mistake necessitating a substitute to occupy his/her post instead of him/her. In this case, the Presidium shall replace him/her by another one.

Article (77): In event the House is dissolved or its term has expired, the Secretary-General shall continue exercising his tasks to facilitate the Secretariat's ordinary works without having the right to recruit, promote or dismiss any employee.

Article (78): The Secretary-General shall be in charge of the following tasks and jurisdictions:

- a. Facilitating all the General Secretariat's technical, financial and administrative works, and supervising, directing and overseeing activities of the executive apparatuses that are of any help to the House.
- b. Arranging for the House's meetings, preparing the agenda – approved by the Presidium – and distributing it along with any projects, reports, documents, data or other attachments to the members of House.
- c. Overseeing the presence and absence of the members of the House and ensuring that the House has the legal quorum for sittings or vote.
- d. Supervising the preparation, editing and filing of the sittings' detailed minutes, as well as editing minutes of the House's secret sittings.

- e. Supervising the preparation of the daily pres summary of the sitting's proceedings, and overseeing the broadcast of sittings' proceedings in the visual and auditory media.
- f. Granting permissions to people who the House or the Presidium allow to enter into the House hall or the terraces allotted for the public and pressmen.
- g. Following up any matters related with members' affairs and facilitating exercise of their parliamentary tasks.
- h. Editing notes and letters concerned with the House's business and ensuring they are delivered to the concerned agencies.
- i. Following up the implementation of any directives or decisions released by the Presidium or the House.
- j. Proposing any draft bylaws and resolutions concerned with tasks of the General Secretariat and submitting them to the Presidium.
- k. Proposing the budget project, and preparing final account of the House and submitting them to the Presidium to finalize any required procedures and refer them to the Financial Committee. This committee shall then study them well and provide the House with a report thereon.
- l. Nominating the appointment of, promoting, transferring and delegating section heads, department managers, administrative employees and workers in the House. He/she is tasked to refer for verification the promotions of employees to a department manager grade in conformity with the Civil Service Law and its Executive Bylaw.
- m. Nominating the appointment of and promoting the House employees to the general manager grade in compliance with the conditions contained in the Civil Service Law and its Executive Bylaw, as well as submitting the relevant documents to the Presidium.
- n. Suggesting a list of employees to receive training and participate in any parliamentary delegations.
- o. Proposing any plans related with improving performance of the House's apparatuses.
- p. Supervising the conservation and documentation of laws, bylaws and decisions made by the House.
- q. Providing the legislations and documents required for the business of the House and its committees.
- r. Doing any other tasks mandated to him/her by the House's Organizing Bylaw, the Presidium or the House.

Article (79): The Assistant Secretary-General shall be in charge of helping the Secretary-General in facilitating works of the Secretariat during the latter's presence. He shall be in charge of doing all the duties of the Secretary-General during his absence.

Article (80): The Secretary-General shall be responsible before the Presidium for his/her works and implementing the budget. He shall be held accountable for any violations related with implementation of the budget after it gets approved by the House.

Article (81): Besides the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General, the General Secretariat shall be made up of administrative and technical personnel, based on the House's need and nature of work. An organizing bylaw, issued under a decision

by the Speaker based on a proposal from the Secretary-General and the Presidium's approval, shall organize the Secretariat and assign its tasks.

PART III
Progress of the House's Business

Chapter One

Sittings of the House

Article (82): The House of Representatives shall, on an invitation from the President of the Republic, hold its first sitting no later than two weeks after the announcement of the election results. If no such invitation is made, the House shall meet on the morning following the date of expiration of the said two weeks.

Article (83): For the meetings of the House to be valid, it is necessary for more than half of its members to attend, excluding those whose seats were declared vacant. Decisions shall be taken by an absolute majority of the attending members except in cases where the Constitution or House regulations/ bylaw demand a specific majority. If the results of voting are equally divided, further deliberations must be rejected within the same session, but shall be given priority if submitted in another session.

Article (84): The House shall have a permanent session except for the two-month holiday, and it shall hold its sittings for four weeks per session and have them discontinued for two weeks. The House may amend its session schedule when required.

Article (85): When the House holds a secret/closed sitting; all those permitted to enter shall evacuate the House hall and terraces. Nobody other than members of the House may attend the sitting except for the House employees or experts, who had permissions. The House may decide on writing the sitting's minute or broadcasting its decisions, and the sitting may go open under a decision by the House if the reasons behind its being closed/secret have ended. The member selected by the Presidium shall be in charge of editing the sitting's minute, and he/she shall keep the minute to the best knowledge of the Presidium. Nobody other than the members of the House or those permitted to attend may have a look at the minute. At any time, the House may decide to publish this minute or part of it.

Chapter Two

Maintaining Order in the House of Representatives

Article (86): A- Only the House of Representatives shall have the right to maintain order and security inside the House's facilities. The Speaker, or the one acting on his behalf, shall be in charge of managing the sittings via special guards working under his directions.

B- No other armed force may enter into the House or stay in the vicinity of its doors unless a request is made by the Speaker. Bearing firearms is banned in the House's hall and yard.

Article (87): For any reason, nobody other than the members of the House shall have an access to the House's hall during the House's ordinary sittings except for ministers, their deputies, government representatives, those authorized to do secretarial works, technicians and servants, who hold cards for admittance to the hall. Nobody, other than the just-said ones, may have an access to the House's loggias or terraces unless he/she obtains permission from the Presidium in accordance with the organizing rules and procedures. Those admitted shall abide by the general regulations of the House's sittings.

Chapter Three

System of Work at Sittings

Article (88): A list of the members' names, the hansard of the previous sitting and the agenda of the coming sitting shall be presented to them half an hour prior to opening the sitting on which they shall sign when they are present.

Article (89): When opening the sitting, the hansard of the previous sitting shall be recited. After that, the letters directed to the House from the President of the Republic, Prime Minister and External Parliamentary Boards as well as any subject the presidium deems to present to the House shall be delivered.

Article (90): Requests for talk are listed in a chronological order; the concerned Ministers, government representatives, committee heads and rapporteurs are allowed during the discussion to talk about the subjects issued by their committees. There shall be no debate on a subject transferred to one of the committees but after the submission of the report by the concerned committee.

Article (91): Before starting the discussion of any subject presented to the House, a record shall be opened for those who request to talk on the subject. The Chair of the sitting shall announce the names of the members, who requested to talk, and then give the listed names permission to talk in a chronological order. He allows then the other members who offer their requests for talking during the sitting without digression from the subject being discussed.

Article (92): No member may talk without a permission from the sitting's chair. He/she may not talk about the same subject more than two times unless it is for clarifying any problem or ambiguity, and the members's talk shall not exceed ten minutes per subject/sitting.

Article (93): Talk is always permitted in the following circumstances:

1. Drawing attention to abidance by provisions of the Consitution and the House Bylaw. Texts of the Constitution and the Bylaw shall be mentioned.
2. Requesting postponement.
3. Correcting an alleged occurrence.
4. Replying to any words/statements disgracing or insulting anyone who requested to talk.

These requests, in their chronological order, shall be given priority to the main subject. They may necessitate adjournment of the discussion until the House issues a decision with regard to them. In any circumstance, other than the first one, no permission for talk may be given to another member until the talker finishes what he/she is saying.

Article (94): Nobody may interrupt the one who is talking, and the talker may not use indecent statements/expressions that harm dignity of persons and reputation of institutions, damages the national interest or violate the order. If the member uses such indecent statements, the Speaker shall reprimand him/her.

Article (95): The member shall talk, standing up at his/her seat or the platform. Regarding their reports, committee heads and rapporteurs shall talk on the platform unless the Speaker requests something else. While talking, the members may not address his/her talk to someone another than the Speaker or the Presidium. He/she may not repeat his/her words or what others have said, or digress from the subject being discussed, and only the Speaker may reprimand him/her while talking. Also, the Speaker may assure the member, who is talking, that his/her viewpoint has been clear enough and there is no need for any further elaboration. If the member insists on talking, the Speaker may warn him/her and highlight this in the minute. If the Speaker warned the talker, but the latter repeated the unacceptable behavior at the same sitting, the Speaker shall have the right to stop him/her from talking.

Article (96): If one of the House members breaks the order and doesn't obey the Speaker's decision, the House may approve one of the following sanctions against him/her:

- a. Preventing him/her from participating in the discussion for the remaining time of the sitting.
- b. Getting him/her out of the sittings' hall and depriving him/her of participating in the remaining works of the House

Article (97): In event of disorder and the Speaker cannot control the situation, the Speaker shall announce discontinuity of the sitting. If the order is not restored, the Speaker may stop the sitting for not more than half an hour. If disorder continues after

resuming the sitting, the Speaker may adjourn the sitting and announce date of the next one.

Article (98): Ten of the House members, head or rapporteur of the concerned committee or the government representative may request adjournment of the discussion or the vote on any subject presented to the House.

Article (99): The agenda shall be discussed and approved at the beginning of every session for the subjects that have been ready in the sitting's secretariat. After discussing and approving its agenda, the House may add a new subject under new developments upon a request by the government or the sitting chair, or a request raised by any of the House members. This conditions the House's approval in all the circumstances while the concerned minister or the government representative may request adjournment of the subject under discussion until a next sitting to be assigned by the House.

Article (100): A- The Presidium shall make the agenda per session at least one week ahead of starting the session. The government shall be provided with a copy of the agenda.

B- The government may request the House to insert any new subject it has in the agenda after the House approves the agenda, on condition the government's request to the Speaker shall assign the urgent subject. The Speaker shall present this subject to the House. If the House decides that such a subject needs to be urgently discussed, it shall be given a priority in the agenda.

Chapter Four

Adjourning the Discussion

Article (101): The Speaker may declare adjournment of the discussion after requesters finish their talk.

Article (102): The Speaker may adjourn the discussion if he realizes that the subject has been sufficiently discussed. Also, he may suggest an end to the discussion upon a written request signed by at least 20 members of those who haven't talked on the subject, and this suggestion shall be presented to the House.

Article (103): According to a suggestion by the Speaker, government, the concerned committee or a written request from at least twenty members, the House shall decide the deadline for finishing the discussion of a subject and voting on it or adjourning the discussion. To adjourn the debate, two members supporting the subject and two at least against the subject shall be given permission to talk about the subject before the

adjournment of discussion. At least one member is allowed to talk after the talk of the government representative.

Article (103): According to a suggestion by the Speaker, government, the concerned committee or upon a written request from at least twenty members, the House shall decide the deadline for finishing the discussion of a subject and voting on it or adjourning the discussion. To adjourn the discussion, two members supporting the subject and two at least opposing the subject shall be given permission to talk about the subject before the adjournment of the discussion. At least one member is allowed to talk after the talk of the government representative.

Article (104): Only one of the members opposing the subject and one supporting it are allowed to talk about the suggestion of adjourning the discussion; those who requested to talk about the key subject have priority. The House shall then make a decision on whether adjourning or continuing the discussion with the majority of attending members. If the adjournment of the discussion is decided, voting shall be taken on the main subject.

Article (105): The request for talking may not be presented after the adjournment of discussion and before voting is made except for wording the question on which the voting is to be made.

Chapter Five

Voting (Expressing Opinion)

Article (106): The House may not take decision unless the majority of its members attend the sitting excluding those whose seats were declared vacant. Decisions shall be taken by an absolute majority of the attending members except in cases where a specific majority is demanded. If the results of voting are equally divided, further deliberation on the discussed subject must be rejected. The same subject may not be presented to the House for voting but in another session. Anyway, the decision is considered valid if it is voted for by a quarter of the members of the House, plus one member at least.

Article (107): No suggestions shall be presented for voting on, except from the Speaker and voting shall be taken first on the suggestions regarding the presented subject. Voting shall be taken on the more extended ones that are farer from the original text. In case the suggestions are rejected, voting shall be taken on the original text.

Article (108): The presented suggestion contains problems that need to be broken down; voting shall be taken on these problems one by one.

Article (109): Each member shall express his opinion/vote on any presented subject. In case a member refrains from voting on the presented subject, he/she give the reasons after voting is taken and before announcing the vote result.

Article (110): The members who refrained from voting shall not be counted among those supporting the subject or opposing it. When the number of members, who voted on the subject, is less than the required majority for issuing the decision because of the refraining, voting on the presented subject shall be adjourned for another sitting. At the second sitting, decisions shall be issued by votes of the majority of the attending members.

Article (111): First, voting shall be taken by raising hands. If the Speaker couldn't get a clear idea about opinions of the majority, the voting shall be taken with the members' standing up. Those supporting the subject shall be requested to stand up, and if no clear result is obtained, voting shall be taken by calling members with their names.

Article (112): A- Voting shall be taken via the computer or by calling members with their names in the following circumstances:

- 1- Draft laws, agreements and conventions
- 2- Granting confidence to the government or withdrawing confidence from it.
- 3- Withdrawing confidence from one of the government's ministers.
- 4- When voting is taken by the secret balloting.
- 5- If at least ten members of the House submit a request before voting is taken. For this request to be accepted, the House shall approve it and investigate that members who submitted the request are present at the sitting.

B- Voting shall be taken by calling members with their names in the circumstances where the Constitution, the Law or the Bylaw, stipulates a specific majority. Voting may be taken in this circumstance by the secret balloting if the House agrees on this upon a request submitted by at least ten of the members or upon a request from the government. In all the circumstances, the Speaker and his deputies shall cast their votes after the other members did so.

Chapter Five

Minutes of sittings

Article (113): Every sitting has two minutes of which one is a detailed one (hansard) and the other includes all procedures of the sitting, the presented subjects and discussions as well as the decisions taken and the names of members in each case in which voting is made either through calling out the names or via computers indicating the view of each one of them.

Article (114): A copy of the hansard is submitted to all Parliamentary committees and another copy to each Parliamentary caucus while five copies shall be kept in the library of the House of Representatives. Each member has the right to get a copy of the minutes. In case any Member of the House presents a request for making corrections on the minutes, the minutes shall be presented to the House of Representatives along with the requests for corrections. Once the corrections are approved by the House of Representatives, they shall report that in the minutes of the sitting when the decision of the House is taken and the minutes shall accordingly be corrected.

Article (115): Before the endorsement of the hansard, any Member of the House attended the sitting has the right to request correcting the hansard only by deletion or addition. No member shall be allowed to do the discussion again. The hansard shall be kept in the records of the House and published as a whole or partially, if the Speaker thinks that, via the official gazette unless the House think otherwise.

Article (116): A brief minutes shall be quickly prepared to be published after every sitting reporting in general the subjects presented to the Parliament and the discussions held and the decisions taken. The minutes shall be made available for different media.

Part IV

Work of the House of Representatives

Chapter One

Legislative Affairs

Section One

Bills and Proposals

Article (117): Members of the House and the government have the right to propose bills and propose amendments to laws. The financial bills aiming at increasing or eliminating or reducing a current tax or exempting from some or intended to allocate a portion of state's funds for a draft bill may not be proposed but by the government or

at least twenty percent of the Members. All proposals for bills submitted by one Member of the House or more are not referred to a committee of the House before studying them by a special committee to give its opinion on considering them by the House. If the House decides to consider anyone of the draft bills, it is referred to the relevant committee to study it and submit a report thereon. Any draft bill submitted not by the government and the House of Representatives rejected it, the same bill may not be submitted again in the same session.

Article (118): A) every draft bill submitted by the government shall be distributed with its explanatory memorandum to Members of the House 48 hours at least prior to the time of the sitting during which the bill will be presented by the concerned minister or his/her deputy.

B) The House of Representatives discusses the draft bill in principle in the light of the overall objectives of the draft bill and its explanatory memorandum and clarifications of the concerned minister.

C) If the House of Representatives approves the draft bill in principle, it is forwarded to the relevant committee or a special committee to study it and submit a report thereon to the House of Representatives during the period specified in this bylaw.

Article (119): The government has the right to request the withdrawal of a draft bill it submitted to the House of Representatives, unless the House had initiated discussing it article by article. It may not re-submit that draft bill to the House of Representatives during the same session; it may not withdraw the same draft bill again.

Article (120): Any proposal of a draft bill submitted by a Member of the House shall be enclosed with an explanatory memorandum explaining the reasons for proposing the draft. That draft is transmitted from the Presidium to the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee to study it and give its view on having it considered by the House of Representatives. The Committee has the right to know the view of who proposes of the draft bill before submitting its report to the House. If the House approves the consideration of the draft bill, the draft bill is referred to the relevant committee to study it and submit a report thereon to the House.

Article (121): If the relevant committee makes amendments to the draft bill, it may forward the draft bill to the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee to give their viewpoints on the wording of the draft bill and consistency of articles and provisions before presenting its report to the House. The Committee shall point out the view of the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee in its report.

Article (122): A) Every member has the right to submit written suggestions on an article of the draft bill or more to the relevant Committee to discuss those suggestions during its study of the draft.

B) The Committee report shall include the original texts of articles of the draft and amendments by the Committee to any of them and justifications of amendment.

C) Committee reports are distributed to Members of the House and read out before the House 48 hours prior to discussing them.

D) The members shall present their suggestions on the report prior to or during the sitting scheduled for discussing it. The House of Representatives shall take its decision on considering the suggestions after listening to the explanations of the person who presents the draft without a discussion. Then, suggestions approved to be considered by the House are to be forwarded to the concerned committee for studying them and giving its opinion thereon at the next sitting.

Article (123): A) The House discusses the articles of the draft bill one by one in light of the Committee's report and suggestions of members starting with reading out the article and amendments thereto.

B) The voting shall be taken first on the amendments that are wider and away from the original text. If any of the amendments is approved by the House, the voting shall be taken on the article with amendments. If the amendments are not approved, the voting shall be taken on the article as it is.

C) If the House decides on an article of the draft bill that shows a change or contradiction with the provisions of one article or more previously approved by the House, it shall be referred to the relevant committee for wording it and ensuring the consistency of the articles of the draft bill and reporting that to the House.

Article (124): The discussion of draft bills in one deliberation which may be conducted again on an article or more if requested by the representative of the government or 5% of the Members of the House following the conclusion of the detailed discussion of the draft bill and voting on its articles one by one. In all cases, the request shall include the article or articles to be deliberated again and the reasons for that. In this case, the deliberation shall be limited to discussing the article or articles indicated in the request excluding the other articles of the draft bill. The House shall give its view on them and report that proceeding in the minutes of the sitting.

Article (125): After the House finishes its discussion of the draft bill and taking the views on all articles one by one in the first and second deliberations, if any, the draft bill shall be referred to the relevant committee again for preparing the final version, as approved by the House. In coordination with the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee, the relevant Committee shall ensure that the draft bill contradicts neither the constitution nor law while preparing to present it to the House for overall and final voting.

Article (126): A) Before the final voting on any draft bill, the final version of the draft bill shall be distributed to members at least forty eight hours prior to the sitting set for conducting the final voting on the overall draft bill. In this case, there shall be no talk or debate on any article of the draft bill unless it is found in the minutes that it has been drafted contrary to what was approved by the House. Then the House shall initiate the process of the final voting on the overall draft bill. If the draft bill has won the required majority, the presidium shall submit it to the President of the Republic for promulgation in accordance with the Constitution. If the draft bill does not win the required majority or the votes are equally divided, the draft bill which has been

discussed is considered rejected in the same session if proposed by other than the government.

B) The Presidium shall submit the draft bills approved by the House to the President of the Republic for promulgation within a period not exceeding thirty days from the date of approval by the House.

Article (127): A) The President of the Republic has the right to request the reconsideration of a draft bill passed by the House. Then he shall refer it back to the House of Representatives within thirty days from the date of submission with a reasoned decree.

B) The President's request for reconsideration of any draft bill shall include reasons and justifications for his objection whether it is an objection to the bill as a whole or to one article or more either his objection is due to amendment, deletion, addition or fragmentation. The request shall include the alternative proposed texts in this aspect. In all cases, the objection decree shall state the date when the draft bill is submitted to the President and the date of objection by the President of the Republic.

Article (128): The objection decree on the reconsideration of a draft bill or any of its articles issued by the President of the Republic shall be read out before the House. The Speaker shall then forward it to the relevant committee to study it and submit a report thereon to the House. This draft bill shall attain an urgent nature for both the House and its committees.

Article (129): The House shall discuss the President's request for reconsidering the draft bill including all proposals on any of its articles; the House has the right of approval or rejection as follows:

A) First, the House has the right to vote on the President's proposals included in the request for reconsideration. If they are approved by the majority of members present, these proposals are considered an integral part of the draft bill. In this case, the articles of the draft bill shall be rearranged in a manner consistent with these proposals and the President of the Republic shall issue the draft bill.

B) If the House does not approve the proposals of the President of the Republic, the House shall put its original draft bill to voting. If it is approved for the second time by the majority of members, it is enacted as a law and the President of the Republic shall issue it within two weeks. If the President has not issued, the draft bill is considered issued by the power of the Constitution with no need for issuance and it shall be immediately published in the Official Gazette and considered effective after two weeks after the date of publication.

C - If the President of the Republic does not object to the draft bill and does not refer it back to the House within thirty days from the date of submission, the draft bill is considered a law and the President of the Republic shall issue it within two weeks. In this case, the provisions applied in this paragraph with respect to issuance, publication and effectiveness, are the same provisions applicable to paragraph (b).

Article (130): All proposals of draft bills or other suggestions on deletion or

fragmentation or addition shall be cancelled at the end of the legislative term.

Section Two Treaties and agreements

Article (131): In accordance with article (92) of the Constitution, the House of Representatives shall ratify the international economic and political treaties and agreements/ conventions with general nature in whatever form or level or the ones which involve financial commitments by the State or whose implementation requires enactment of a law.

Article (132): In accordance with the provision of paragraph (e) of article (125) of the Constitution, House of Representatives, in a joint meeting with Shura Council, shall ratify the agreements and treaties related to defense, coalition, reconciliation, peace and borders, the majority of the members present from both Houses shall vote on them.

Article (133): Speaker of the House shall notify the treaties and agreements signed by initials which was approved by the House of Ministers in accordance with article (137) of the Constitution, along with the government statement attached. This statement shall be read at the first subsequent sitting with the deposit of treaties and attachments to the Presidium, the Speaker shall refer the treaty and its attachments to the relevant committee to study them and report to the House. The House has the right to approve or reject or postpone its consideration but not to modify its texts; in case of rejection or deferral, the House shall draw the government's attention to the reasons that led to this.

Chapter Two

Oversight by House of Representatives

Section One Questions

Article (134): The question is seeking the clarification of a matter related to the function of ministries or government institutions, including the question about something the member does not know or to verify that an event, the member knew about, took place or to question about the government's intention in a specific matter.

Article (135): The House of Ministers is collectively or individually responsible, and each Member of the House has the right to direct questions to the Prime Minister or one of his deputies, or a minister or their deputies in any subject which comes in the frame of their jurisdictions, and the person whom the question was directed to shall answer it.

Article (136): The House set a day or more per week in each session for the discussion of public issues and directing questions by Members of the House to the government or one of its members.

Article (137): The question shall be presented in writing to the Speaker of House. It shall be signed by the person who presented it and the Speaker shall communicate/inform about the question presented in accordance with the previous article as soon as he receives the question. He shall include it in the agenda of the sooner sitting provided that the sitting to be held after a maximum of a week from the sate the Speaker informed the concerned bodies. If the question is directed to a Minister or his deputy, a copy of the question shall be sent to the Prime Minister for information.

Article (138): The Prime Minister or one of his deputies or the minister or their deputy shall answer the questions on the agenda before the House, and any of them has the right to ask for a postponement to answer not later than a week; if he/she requests that, the request shall be accepted. The postponement shall not last for more than this time only on a decision by the House.

Article (139): A) The member who asked the question, but not the others, has the right to ask for clarification and to comment on the answer briefly once or twice, and he may not change the question into interrogation at the same sitting.

B) The Speaker of the House may allow another member to make a brief comment and the Head of the committee concerned with the subject of the question to make a brief remark on the answer if asked for permission.

Article (140): In case the member who presented the question requests a written answer to the question, the government shall send the answer to the Speaker of the House within a week from the date the question is presented to the concerned body in order to convey the answer to the member who presented it. The question and answer shall be included in the minuets of the sitting.

Article (141): The government may on its own or due to a question directed to it to ask for discussing a particular topic related to the public policy of the State to get the opinion of the House.

Article (142): The previous procedures of the questions shall not be applied to the questions directed to the Prime Minister or a minister while discussing the budget or any subject before the House during which the members may direct them at the sitting orally.

Section Two

Decisions, request for discussion and investigations

Article (143): A) The House of Representatives has the right to direct recommendations to the government on the public matters or any issue related to its functions or the performance of any of its members, and the government shall

implement those recommendations; if they are impossible to be implemented, it shall explain that to the House.

B) If the House is not convinced about the justifications, it has the right to immediately take procedures to withdraw confidence from one of the Prime Minister's Deputies or any of the ministers concerned. The request for withdrawing confidence may not be presented to the House unless a quarter of the members suggested that. The House may not issue its decision on the request within seven days from the date it was presented. The decision to withdraw the confidence shall be voted on by the majority of the members.

Article (144): Upon the approval of the House, the Presidium has the right to exclude any proposal containing language which is inappropriate or impairs the dignity of persons or bodies or harm the supreme interest of the country or that imply an interrogation, investigation or discussion, which is not regulated by special provisions in the Constitution and this Bylaw.

Article (145): At least 20% of the members of the House may raise a public topic for discussion and clarification of the policy of the government in that respect and exchanging views on it.

Article (146): A) The House of Representatives has the right to transfer the Prime Minister or his deputies or ministers or their deputies to investigation and prosecution due to whatever crimes one commits while performing their work or because of it. The House's decision of accusation shall be based on a proposal by at least a fifth of its members and the decision of accusation shall not be issued but after the approval of the majority of two-thirds of the members.

B) Who is accused of those stated in paragraph (a) of this article shall be suspended from his job until a decision is made on his case; the termination of his service does not preclude finding a suite against him or the continuity of prosecution.

C) The investigation and prosecution of the Prime Minister or his deputies or the ministers as well as the court actions and guarantees shall be as outlined in the law.

D) The provisions of the preceding paragraphs of this article are applied to the deputy ministers.

Article (147): The Speaker of the House shall inform the Prime Minister or one of his deputies or a minister or any of his deputies as soon as the issue of suspension on referral to investigation is presented. This case shall be included in the agenda of the subsequent sitting for consideration. The concerned person may request the postponement of discussion for a period not exceeding a week in order to bring its own defenses before the House and the House shall respond to that.

Article (148): In all cases, the House may decide to refer the request to one of the committees to consider it and present its report on it to the House. In case the decision of accusation is approved by the House, the Presidium shall take the necessary actions

on the case in accordance with the constitution and law.

Section Three

Discussion of the government's program or any statement on its policies

Article (149): Within a maximum of 25 days of the formation of the new government, the prime minister shall present to the House of Representatives his government's program in order to obtain confidence with the majority of votes. If the House of Representatives is in recess, it is called for an extraordinary sitting to vote on the government program. The House in general or any of its members may comment on the program. The inability of the government to win the stated majority vote means the with-holding of confidence.

Article (150): A) When the Prime Minister presents the government's program to the House, he shall give the Speaker the opportunity to talk to a member at least from each parliamentary caucus, and then give the opportunity for caucuses and members to study the program during three days from the date of it was submitted to the House.

B) The discussion on the program shall last for not more than three days. The members registered before the sitting shall be given and others who want to talk by names. The government's representatives have the right to reply, comment, clarify or declare the commitment to any remark made by the members during the discussion.

C) Prior to the start of the discussion, the Parliament has the right to form a special committee to formulate the essential remarks presented by the members and to present them to the House within a period not exceeding four days. In case the government approves those remarks or some of them, they are considered an integral part of the program.

D) When those who requested to talk and got registered with the Presidium finishes their comments or when the time limit prescribed in paragraph (c) is finished, the Speaker of the House has the right to allow at least one of the supporters and one of the antagonists to talk. The program is put then for at the same sitting.

Article (151): The previous provisions are applicable to the discussion of any statement by the government on the adoption of a new policy.

Article (152): When the Prime Minister requests to obtain confidence on the government on the program presented or when the statement on pursuing a new policy, the House decision, not to approve the program or statement, is considered a decision of with-holding confidence.

Article (153): When presenting his government's program to the House, the Prime Minister shall enclose the program with a statement including clear-cut information on the ministers of his government and the declarations of assets of each one of them in accordance with the provisions of law.

Section Four Interrogations

Article (154): Every member of the House of Representatives has the right to direct an interpellation to the prime minister, his deputies, and the ministers to hold them accountable for matters under their charge. Responses to, and discussions of such interpellations shall take place after at least one week, except in cases which the House deems as urgent, and to which the government agrees.

Article (155): The interrogation shall be presented in writing to the Speaker explaining in general and briefly the subjects and events addressed by it. The interrogation may not include inappropriate phrases.

Article (156): The Speaker shall include the interrogation in the agenda of the first sitting after informing the government of setting a date for the discussion after hearing her words.

Article (157): At the sitting set for that that, the discussion of the interrogation shall start with the interrogator interrogating the Prime Minister or his deputies or a minister or his deputy who shall reply to the interrogation. The interrogating member then comments. Then, the members who are standing by or against the interrogation talk alternately one by one. If there are multiple interrogators, those who presented the request for interrogation earlier shall have priority unless they concede another to precede. The Discussion may not be concluded before at least three members from each side who requested the talk are allowed to talk.

Article (158): After the conclusion of discussion on interrogation, the Speaker presents the proposals submitted to him in writing during the discussion on interrogation and put them for voting.

Article (159): A) The interrogation may lead to:

1. raising of the confidence in the government at the discretion of the government or the request of one third of the members of the House to discuss the impact of interrogation directed to it.
2. raising the issue of the withdrawal of confidence from one of the Prime Minister's Deputies or any of the concerned ministers at the suggestion of a quarter of the members of the House.

B) The House of Parliament may not make a decision on the withdrawal of confidence before seven days from the date it was presented.

Article (160): The decision of the withdrawal of confidence from the government or one of the Prime Minister's Deputies or any minister shall be voted on by the majority of members.

Article (161): If the House of Representatives decides to withdraw confidence from

the government, the Speaker shall inform the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister shall in this case submit the resignation of the government to the President.

Section Five Petitions and Complaints

Article (162): Petitions and complaints sent by the citizens to the House of Representatives shall be signed by who presented them stating their residence and be free of inappropriate language. If the petition or complaint on behalf of groups, it shall be certified by statutory bodies and honorable persons. Citizens may present their complaints through their representatives in the House of Representatives.

Article (163): The Speaker or anyone acting in his place transfer the petitions and complaints to the relevant committees. If the petition or complaint is related to a subject already referred to a committee of the House, it shall be referred to the Committee to study it along with the subject while the petitioner shall be notified in writing about it.

Article (164): Through the Speaker, the House and the concerned committees have the right to request the Prime Minister to provide explanations for petitions and complaints referred to them; they have the right to directly ask the ministers concerned.

Chapter Three

Financial affairs

Section One Budgets and final accounts

Article (165): A) The General Budget Proposal shall be submitted to the House at least two months prior to the commencement of the fiscal year. Voting on the bill shall be made on a chapter by chapter and shall be approved by an enactment of law. The House may not amend the budget bill except with the approval of the Government and no revenue shall be earmarked for a particular expenditure except by a law. If the new budget law is not issued before the commencement of the new financial year, the budget of the previous year shall be applied until such time as the new budget has been approved.

B) The way to prepare and categorize the general budget as well as identifying the fiscal year shall be specified in accordance with the law.

C - If the government does not present the budget on time, the House has the right to demand accountability for the reasons behind the delay.

Article (166): A) The Minister of Finance, while the government is introducing the

draft general budget of the State, autonomous and supplementary budgets and budgets of the economic sector, shall read the financial statement of budgets to the House of Representatives at a sitting set for this purpose. This sitting shall be attended by members of the government or some ministers. In all circumstances, the financial statement shall include the general tenet, the basic components of the draft bills of budget, the major objectives with an overview of the financial, economic and monetary situation when drafting the budget, and any data or information regarding the budget.

B) The Speaker allows a number of members to comment on the draft budget and its financial statement following the completion of the reading of the financial statement.

Article (167): After reading the financial statement for the House, the Speaker refer the draft bill of the general budget of the State, autonomous and supplementary budgets, budgets of the economic sector, and budgets of the special funds to an ad hoc committee headed by one of the Deputy Speakers with the membership of the Financial Affairs Committee and the heads of the permanent Committees and the heads of parliamentary caucuses. When discussing the budget, the Committee has the rights to form subcommittees.

Article (168): The committee assigned to examine the draft bill of the general budget of the State, shall prepare its report and submit it to the House to discuss it and take decision at the presence of the Minister of Finance and the Deputy Ministers and Chairs of public institutions and authorities concerned whom the government assigns to attend. After the completion of the discussion of the report prepared by the Committee, the House shall initiate to vote on draft budgets chapter by chapter. The approval of the bill shall be issued by an enactment of law.

Article (169): The law shall specify the rules of the budgets of public authorities, corporations and companies, their accounts, their autonomous and supplementary budgets and final accounts. With the exception of the above, these budgets shall be subject to the same provisions governing the general budget and its final account including the approval of the House.

Article (170): The transfer of any amount from one chapter to another of the general budget shall be approved by the House of Representatives. Every expenditure not provided for in the budget or any additional revenue shall only be authorized by law.

Article (171): A) The Final Account of the Government's Annual Budget shall be submitted to the House of Representatives within a period not exceeding nine months after the close of the fiscal year.

B) The report of the Central Organization for Control and Audit on the final account of the general budgets of the State shall be submitted to the House of Representatives at the same time the government submits the final account.

C - If the government does not submit the final account of the general budgets of the State on time identified, the House of Representatives has the right to request for clarification about the reasons behind postponement.

Article (172): When the government submits to the final account of the budgets of the State for the passed year, the Minister of Finance shall submit a report on the results achieved by the budgets and to what extent their financial, economic and monetary objective were achieved and implementation level and whatever imbalances and violation occurred in the meanwhile or resulted, in addition to how the government funded the budget deficit, if any, as well as the consequences of that.

Article (173): A) After perusing the explanatory memo of the final account by the Minister of Finance, the Speaker shall transfer the final account of the general budget of the State, autonomous and supplementary budgets, budgets of the economic sector, and budgets of the special funds to an ad hoc committee headed by one of the Deputy Speakers with the membership of the Financial Affairs Committee and the Heads of the Permanent Committees and the Heads of Parliamentary caucuses to study it and present a report to the House.

B) While studying and reviewing the final accounts, the Committee has the right to be assisted by specialized experts as well as to form subcommittees.

C) The Committee shall submit its report to the House within a period not exceeding one month from the date of referral to the Committee.

D) The members of the House shall discuss the report at the presence of the Minister of Finance and whoever assigned by the government to attend. After the completion of the discussion of the report, the House shall initiate voting on the final accounts chapter by chapter and their approval shall be issued by an enactment of law.

Article (174): While presenting the annual report, the Chair of the Central Organization for Control and Audit shall read out the statement of audit of the passed year in a sitting set for this purpose. In all cases, this statement shall include a brief about the major violations occurred while the implementation of the general budget of the State, the budgets of the economic sector, the autonomous and supplementary budgets of the passed year and the imbalances and violations of the rules governing the implementation of budgets and all operating laws and bylaws stating the measures taken by the Central Organization for Control and Audit or the relevant bodies in that respect in general.

Article (175): The Speaker shall refer the Annual Report of the Central Organization for Control and Audit to the relevant committees of the House to study what is relevant to their specialization. These Committees shall present their reports to the House within no more than a month to discuss them and take whatever measures it deems suitable.

Article (176): The House of Representatives or any of its Committees may request any data or other reports from the Central Organization for Control and Audit (COCA). The House as well as its Committees has the right to delegate COCA to examine an activity of any governmental body belonging to the administrative apparatus of the State or the units of the public and private sectors, local Houses and others, and COCA shall do that without delay and put its all expertise, documents and data at the command of the House or any committee of its committees to allow them

to perform their duties in this aspect.

Section One Development plans

Article (177): The House of Representatives shall approve the comprehensive social and economic development plans. The law shall be enacted to stipulate the process of preparation of such plans, their submission to the House, the voting procedures and the approval thereof.

Article (178): In accordance with the provisions of paragraph (e) of article (125) of the Constitution, the House of Representatives endorsed in a joint meeting with the Shura Council the plans of economic and social development, treaties and agreements related to defense, coalition, reconciliation, peace and borders.

Article (179): The Prime Minister or whoever assigned by him shall read out the five-year development plan's statement to the joint meeting at the presence of members of the government in a sitting set for this purpose. In all cases, the plan's statement shall include its general objectives and aspirations and main components and basis and sources of funding and other significant issues.

Article (180): The Speaker shall refer the draft development plan to a select committee formed of the development committees and Heads of permanent committees in the two Houses and headed in this case by a Deputy Speaker. The Committee may constitute up subcommittees to study it and then the combined committee prepares its report on the plan and submits it to the joint meeting for discussion and taking measures it deems suitable. The overall draft plan shall be then put for voting.

Section Three House's budget and accounts

Article (181): The House of Representatives has an autonomous budget that shall be included as one figure in General Budget of the State.

Article (182): When preparing the draft budget of the House of Representatives, the allocation of the amounts needed for each type of expenditures shall be taken into account. The draft budget shall be referred by the Speaker of the House to the Finance Committee at the beginning of June to study it and submit a report thereon to the House for discussion and approval during the month of July every year.

Article (183): After the approval of the budget of the House, its allocation shall be deposited in the Central Bank. No amount shall be spent but at the permission of the Speaker or whoever member of the presidium acting on his behalf or the Secretary-General in accordance with the financial bylaw approved by the House.

Article (184): The Secretary General of the House shall prepare the draft financial bylaw regulating the accounts of the House and the system of spending and inventory and other financial affairs and present it to the Presidium to discuss it and to refer it the Financial Affairs Committee to study it and submit a report thereon to the House for discussion and approval.

Article (185): A) The Secretary-General shall prepare the final account of the budget of the House and present it to the presidium during the two months following the end of the fiscal year. The presidium shall refer it to the Financial Committee during March every year to study it and submit a report thereon to the House within not more than a month from the date of referral.

B) The Financial Committee shall conduct the annual inventory of the treasury and property and perform other functions falling under its responsibilities.

Article (186): If the Financial Committee does not submit its report on the final account of the House for the passed fiscal year on scheduled time, the House shall discuss the matter to find out the reasons for the delay and take whatever decisions it deems as appropriate.

Article (187): In the light of their annual plans and agendas, the Permanent Committees of the House shall identify the materialistic and technical requirements and needs necessary for the implementation of their plans and programs and to cover their various activities. When preparing the draft budget of the House, these requirements and needs shall be taken into account.

Part V

Provisions of membership

Chapter One

Determination of membership legitimacy

Article (188): Only the House of Representatives is in charge of determining the membership validity of its members.

Article (189): Each voter has the right to appeal to the House of Representatives stating the legal reasons for the invalidity of the membership of the person challenged against depositing a financial guarantee of a hundred thousand riyals to be transferred to the State's general treasury if the decision on the appeal/ challenge is not in the voter's favor and to be repaid to him if the decision is in his favor.

Article (190): The Presidium of the House shall be responsible for sending the appeals with the supportive documents within fifteen days from the date of delivery to the House to the Supreme Court to investigate the presented appeals and submit the

result to the House along with all documents. The investigation shall be concluded within ninety days from the date of the referral to the Court.

Article (191): The finding of the investigation on the validity of appeals reached by the Supreme Court shall be presented to the House of Representatives to determine the validity of the appeal within sixty days from the date the investigation's finding is received from the court. The membership shall not be deemed as void but by a decision issued by the House of Representatives. The decision shall be secretly voted on by two thirds of the House members.

Article (192): If the House found that the appeal against any member's legitimacy of membership has no legal bases, the House may decide to confiscate the financial insurance for the benefit of the public treasury and the damaged person shall not be precluded to go to the judiciary to file a civic suit.

Chapter Two

Disqualification of membership

Article (193): The House of Representatives only shall be competent to determine upon the request disqualifying the membership.

Article (194): The membership of a member of the House of Representatives cannot be nullified unless any of the membership conditions stipulated in the constitution becomes inapplicable or the member commits a serious violation of the membership duties. The following acts are deemed as serious violations of the membership duties:

1. violating the constitution;
2. committing any act considered, in accordance with the law, a high treason or encroachment on the independence and sovereignty of the country;
3. committing any act which is considered by the law a serious crime;
4. combining membership of the House and the public post with the exception of the Council of Ministers and in all circumstances the House may take a decision on the subject of the request of disqualification for the acts stipulated in items (1, 2 and 3) of this article unless a definitive court verdict has been issued on any one of them.

Article (195): If the member loses one of the membership requirements stipulated in paragraph (2) of the article (64) of the Constitution or committed one of the violation cited in the previous article of this bylaw, his membership shall be nullified and the disqualification of membership shall be as follows:

1. taming into consideration the provisions of article (193) of this bylaw, the request for the disqualification of membership shall be submitted to the Speaker in writing supported by the evidences and signed by twenty members;
2. the Speaker of the House shall notify the member about the request for disqualification of membership and present it to the House at the first sitting;

3. the House shall refer the request for the disqualification of membership to the relevant committee for examination. The Committee shall present its report within at most two weeks before the House at the first sitting;
4. the House shall take decision on the request for the membership disqualification within a period not exceeding two weeks from the date the report is presented. The member, whose membership was requested to be disqualified, has the right to take part in the discussion of the Committee and the House expressing his defense provided that he shall leave the sitting while voting.
5. The House shall take decision on the membership disqualification through taking opinions by calling out the name, a decision to disqualify membership shall be issued by being voted on by the majority of two thirds of the House members, the House may decide to make the vote secret.

Article (196): A) Members of House of Representatives submit their resignations to the House, which has the exclusive competence to accept them. The resignation shall be submitted in writing to the Speaker of the House and presented to the House at its first sitting after the tenth day of submission. The member shall reconsider his resignation before issuing a decision on the acceptance of the resignation, taking into account the following:

1. resignation shall be reasoned;
2. resignation shall be included in the agenda of the House;
3. it shall not be discussed before thirty days from the submission are passed.

B) No member may submit his resignation during the last year of the term of the House.

Chapter Four

Vacant seats and vacations

Section One

Vacant seats

Article (197): The situations in which of the seats of the Member of the House of Representatives get vacant are specified with one of the following:

1. resignation;
2. disqualification of membership;
3. death.

Article (198): If the seat of a member of the House of Representatives becomes vacant before the expiry of the House's term by a period of not less than one year, a

successor shall be elected within sixty days from the date of the House's resolution announcing the vacancy. The membership term of the successor shall be coterminous with the House's term.

Section II

Controls of absence

Article (199): A member may not be absent from attending the sittings of the House but with a leave from Speaker of the House or one of his deputies. If the member is absent from attending sittings without leave or valid excuse, the following measures shall be taken against him:

- A) If a member is absent for five consecutive sittings or seven non-consecutive sittings during any session of the ordinary House sessions in which the number of sittings do not exceed (10) sittings each, he shall be warned by the Speaker of the House or who is acting on his behalf.
- B) If a member is absent for more than five consecutive sittings or more than seven non-consecutive sittings during any session of the ordinary House sessions in which the number of sittings do not exceed (10) sittings each, he shall be given a written notice by the presidium.
- C) If a member is absent for two full sessions, his case shall be presented to the House to take the appropriate decision thereon, which shall be published via official media means.

Anyway, at the end of each session of the House, the names of the members who were absent from the House sittings of that session shall be published via official mass media means.

Article (200): If the member is absent from one sitting of the House due to a matter beyond his control, he, himself, or whoever he assigns to inform the Speaker or one of his deputies and the Speaker or the deputy informed about that shall give a directive to the concerned department of the House to consider him absent with a reason.

Chapter Five

Immunities of Members

Article (201): The member of the House of Representatives shall be granted the parliamentary immunity from the day he swore in, and no member shall waive such immunity without a permission from the House.

Article (202): A member of the House of Representatives shall not be held responsible for facts he comes across or matters he raises in the House or any of its committees, or for his voting pattern in open or closed sittings. This shall not apply to cases of slander or defamation by members.

Article (203): Members of the House of Representatives may not be subjected to procedures of investigations, inspections, arrests, imprisonment or punishment except with the permission of the House of Representatives save in the case of his/her being caught in the act, and in such a case, the House shall be notified forthwith. The House shall make sure of the rectitude of the procedures followed in such cases. If the House is in recess, permission shall be sought from the presidium of the House, and the House of Representatives shall be notified at the first sitting following the procedures taken.

Article (204): A request for permission to lift the immunity of a member shall be submitted by Minister of Justice to the Speaker. The request shall be enclosed with the documents of the case required to take punitive actions on or a copy of the suite petition to be filed with the supportive documents. The Speaker shall refer the application to the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee for consideration and giving opinion on it, and it shall be considered by the Committee and the House as urgent.

Article (205): Neither the Committee nor the House shall consider the availability or lack of evidence from the judicial perspective but only examine whether the suit is malicious or intended to prevent a member from performing his duties in the House which authorizes taking punitive actions when the suit appeared not to be so. The House shall take its decision on lifting the immunity by the approval of the absolute majority of its members.

Article (206): The immunity of a member shall be lifted for a period not exceeding three months. If judiciary does not reach a judgment on the suit for any reason of the justifiable ones, Minister of Justice may request the continuation of lifting the immunity for an additional period approved by the absolute majority of the House members.

Chapter Six

The Members' rights and privileges

Article (207): A) During their membership term, the members of the House of Representatives shall be treated like the ministers working in the Council of Ministers in relation to health insurance, treatment, travel and transportation allowances and other material and moral benefits enjoyed by ministers, and their ranking in the ceremonial meetings with working ministers.

B) After the expiration of his membership, the member of the House shall be granted the Minister rank and receive the salary, benefits, bonuses and allowances similar to that the minister who left the ministry gets and be an integral part of the House budget and this is the acquired rights.

D) A specialized department belonging to the General Secretariat shall be established in the House of Representatives in order to take care of former

members of the House and give their payments referred to in paragraph (b) above.

Article (208): During his membership, the member of the House of Representatives shall be entitled to remuneration from the day he swore in as the total amount the working minister including salary and allowances. The Prime Minister, his deputies and ministers shall not be entitled to such remuneration if they happen to be members of the House of Representatives.

Article (209): A) During their membership term, the members of the House shall retain their monthly salaries paid by their former job sites as they are acquired rights.

B) After the expiry of their membership term, the members of the House shall retain their right to return to their jobs and their acquired rights in promotions and bonuses.

C) The presidium and Committees of the House have the right to be assisted by experienced and specialized former members of the House as advisors for the Presidium or the Permanent Committees.

Part VI

Procedures for nomination of the presidential elections

Article (210): Nomination and election of the President shall be as follows:

1. Applications for candidacy shall be submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
2. Applications shall be screened jointly by the presidium of the House of Representatives and the Shura Council to ensure that presidential candidates meet constitutional requirements.
3. Names of the candidates who meet constitutional requirements shall be reviewed for approval in a joint meeting of the House of Representatives.
4. Successful candidates must secure the nomination of at least %5 of those attending the joint meeting cited above. Confirmation of nomination shall be via direct and secret balloting.
5. The joint meeting of the House of Representatives and the Shura Council shall be required to forward secondment of at least three candidates for the post of the President of the Republic before submitting the candidates to the people in preparation for a free and competitive election. The number of candidates for a presidential election shall not be less than two.
6. Election of the President of the Republic shall be by means of direct popular voting in competitive elections.

Article (211): Each of the candidates running for the post of President of the Republic shall meet the following requirements:

- A) To be at least forty years old;
- B) To be a descendant of Yemeni parents
- C) To be at Liberty to practicing his political and civil rights;
- D) To be of good character, practices his Islamic duties and have no dishonorable criminal record and if so, he has been reprieved.
- E) Not to be married to a foreign spouse or to enter into such a marriage during his term of office.

Article (212): The presidiums of the House of Representatives and Shura Council have the right to announce the names got the secondment of the joint meeting as candidates for the post of President of the Republic and the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum shall be informed with a copy of the list of candidates and that is viewed as a delegation to allow it to prepare for the presidential elections by the people in competitive elections during the rest of the constitutionally prescribed period.

Article (213): The candidate who secures an absolute majority of the popular votes shall be deemed the President of the Republic. If none of the candidates secures an absolute majority, re-elections shall be called upon in compliance with the above-cited procedures. Only the two candidates who managed to secure the highest number of popular votes shall run for re-election.

Article (214): The President of the Republic shall perform the constitutional oath in front of the House of Representatives before assuming his responsibilities.

Article (215): If the term of the House of Representatives expires in the same month as the term of the President of the Republic, then the President term is prolonged until parliamentary elections are held. Within sixty days of the first sitting of the new House of Representatives, the new president shall be elected.

Article (216): Within ninety days prior to the expiry of the term of the President, procedures shall be initiated to elect the new President. The election thereof shall be completed at least one week before the expiry date. If such elections cannot take place for any reason, the former President continues his functions for a maximum of ninety days based on an authorization from the House of Representatives. The prolongation of the term for more than ninety days can only take place if the country is in a state of war or suffering a natural disaster or another emergency situation, under which electing the President becomes impossible.

Article (217): If the post of the President of the Republic becomes vacant or should the President become permanently disabled, the Vice President temporarily takes over the Presidential functions for a period that does not exceed sixty days, during which new elections for the President of the Republic shall take place. If the post of the President of the Republic and Vice President become vacant at the same time, the

presidium of the House of Representatives shall temporarily take over the functions of the President. If the House of Representatives is under dissolution, the government shall replace the presidium of the House in carrying out the functions of the Presidency, and in this case election of the President of the Republic shall take place within a period that does not exceed sixty days from the first sitting of the new House of Representatives.

Part VII

The procedures for amending the Constitution

Article (218): A) The President of the Republic and the House of Representatives have the right to request amendments to one or more than one article of the constitution. The request shall specify the article(s) that require amendment as well as the reasons and justifications for such amendment.

B) If the request is issued by the House of Representatives, it shall be signed by one-third of its members.

C) In all cases, the House of Representatives shall discuss whether the motion for constitutional amendment is justifiable in principle or not. The motion shall be sustained if supported by the House absolute majority. If the motion is defeated, another request for constitutional amendments of the same article(s) may not be submitted until one year lapses following that motion defeat.

D) If the motion for constitutional amendment(s) is sustained in principle, the House shall deliberate on the article(s) to be amended after a two-month period from the date of approval. If three quarters of the House support the motion for amendment of any article(s) stipulated in Part I and II (i.e. Article: 62, 63, 81, 82, 92, 93, 98, 101, 105, 108, 110, 111, 112, 116, 119, 121, 128, 139, 146, 158, 159), that motion shall be presented to the people in general referendum. If the absolute majority of popular votes is in favor of the motion, the amendments shall be up-held as of the date the referendum results are announced. Constitutional articles other than the ones cited above may be amended if the call for amendments is supported by at least three quarters of the House of Representatives. Such amendments shall be deemed valid as of the date of approval by House of Representatives.

Article (219): During three days from the date the request for amendment, the presidium of the House shall review the request and its justifications and reasons for the amendment and distribute it to the House and include it in the agenda. In all cases, the presidium may not postpone the request for amendment with it more than a week.

Article (220): The House shall discuss the principle of amendment and its justifications after passing at least seventy two hours from the time the request for amendment as well as justifications were submitted to the House.

Article (221): A) The House shall discuss the principle of the amendment and vote on it through calling out names. Before voting on the principle of amendment, the House may refer it to the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee or to a select

committee constituted from its members in order to express an opinion about this matter and submit its view to the House within a week at most.

B) If the principle of the amendment won the approval of the majority of House members, it shall be referred to a select committee constituted from its members taking into account while the composition of the committee the specialization and efficiency provided that the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee and Legalization of the Islamic Sharia Committee are represented.

C) If the principle of amendment does not get the approval of the majority of House members, the request shall be deemed unacceptable. The amendment to the same articles may not be requested again before a year is passed after the rejection of the first request.

Article (222): A) The House shall discuss the constitutional amendments after at least two months of the House's approval of the principle of the amendment.

B) The House shall review the report of the Committee after at least forty eight hours of the distribution of the report to the House and discuss the articles required to be amended article by article and put all articles for final voting by three quarters of members.

C) Presidium shall issue a statement containing articles the House approved their amendments during three days after the approval of the House.

D) If the constitutional amendments are not approved by three quarters of the House, they shall be deemed unacceptable. The amendment to the same articles may not be requested again before a year is passed after the rejection of the first request.

Article (223): The Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum shall be informed with a copy of the presidium's statement on the approval of the constitutional amendments, and that is viewed as a delegation to allow it to prepare for the declare the constitutional amendments approved by the House to be put for public referendum during a period not exceeding three months after the date the statement of the presidium of the House was issued.

Part VIII

General provisions

Article (224): A) The parliamentary caucuses are bound while performing their duties to:

1. Constitution and laws in force;
2. working on stabilizing the democratic approach in the country;
3. working on stabilizing the ideal parliamentary customs and traditions;

4. working on conducting various activities of the members in purpose of educating them and providing them with the knowledge necessary for a Member of the House.

B) Each caucus shall have an office and appropriate budget within the budget of the House in order to help them accomplish their tasks.

Article (225): A member of House shall have an office in his constituency and it shall have the required financial allocations from the budget of the House.

Article (226): Parliamentary Division is established as follows:

- A) The House of Representatives is the Parliamentary Division of the Republic of Yemen for Arab and Islamic, regional and international parliamentary conferences.
- B) The Parliamentary Division consists of all Members of the House.
- C) The Speaker of the House is the Head of the Division and the Deputy Speakers are the Deputy Heads of the Division.

Article (227): The Parliamentary Division shall have an Executive Committee consisting of the Speaker of the House, his Deputies and the Head of Foreign Affairs Committee who shall be the Committee Rapporteur.

Article (228): Brotherhood and Friendship Parliamentary Associations shall be established on the basis of the decision of the Presidium that shall notify the House in the light of the agreements signed between the House and parliamentary assemblies.

Article (229): A) The House shall annually hold two ordinary sessions: the first starts on the first of February and ending on the thirty-first of July, followed by August which is a leave, and the second session begins on the first of September and ends on the thirty-first of December, followed by January which is a leave. The House session shall not be adjourned during the last quarter of the year before the endorsement of the General Budget of the state.

B) The holy month of Ramadan shall be considered an official leave of the House and if it happens that it is one of the months of the annual session, it shall be compensated by a month following the session.

C) In case of necessity, the House of Representatives shall be called for extraordinary sessions with a decree by the President of the Republic or the Presidium of the House or a written request by one third of members.

Article (230): A bulletin shall be issued by the House on the daily activities of the House and its various internal and external apparatuses to be accessible to all members of the House.

Article (231): The House shall start its work in accordance with article (17) in relation to direct election of the presidium and article (25) concerning the composition

of the Permanent Committees of the House at the first sitting of the House after the issuance of this bylaw.

Article (232): A) The provisions of this bylaw may not be amended except at a proposal by the presidium of the House or twenty percent of the members, and the proposal shall be presented to the House for discussion and approval in principle.

B) If the House approves the proposed amendment in principle, it shall be referred to a select committee to study it and submit a report thereon to the House.

Article (233): The provisions of the internal bylaw of the House of Representatives issued by Law No (18) in 2003 and any clause or provision inconsistent with the provisions of this bylaw shall be cancelled.