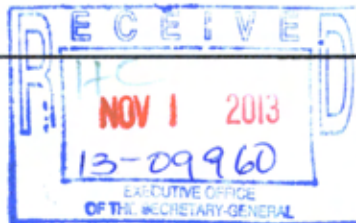


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Note to the Deputy Secretary-General

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT ON IRAQ PURSUANT TO SCR 2110 (2013)

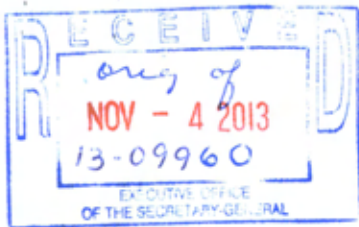
1. The first report of the Secretary-General on Iraq pursuant to Security Council resolution 2110 (2013) is due to be issued by 14 November. SRSG Nickolay Mladenov will brief the Security Council on 25 November. The draft was prepared by UNAMI with the United Nations country team, and finalized by DPA, in consultation with members of the Iraq Integrated Task Force. The report is within the 8,500 word limit.
2. It reflects a number of positive developments, in particular national reconciliation initiatives and successful parliamentary elections in the Kurdistan Region. At the same time, the report notes that Iraq is witnessing a significant rise in sectarian violence, partly due to the ongoing conflict in Syria, as well as a protracted political crisis with a stalemate in negotiations over the adoption of the electoral law for the April 2014 national parliamentary elections. It further indicates that a large number of human rights, humanitarian, and social-economic challenges need to be addressed.
3. We would like to draw your particular attention to the following paragraphs:
 - **Paragraphs 2 to 6 and 9, and 18 to 20, and 54 to 61:** Refer to the ongoing political crisis, including talks over amending the electoral law, and deteriorating security situation, including the re-emergence of displacement on sectarian and ethnic basis.
 - **Paragraphs 13 to 14, and 44 to 48, and 64:** Refer to the humanitarian, security, and political spillover of the Syria crisis into Iraq.
 - **Paragraphs 26 to 37, and 65 to 66:** Refer to issues related to human rights, in particular the implementation of the death penalty.
 - **Paragraphs 38 to 43, and 67:** Refer to matters regarding Camps New Iraq and Hurriya, including the 1 September attack on Camp New Iraq, efforts to relocate residents outside of Iraq, and human rights abuses allegedly committed by the leadership of the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq (MeK).
 - **Paragraphs 58 and 68:** Refer to the continued absence of a signed Status-of-Mission Agreement.
4. We would be grateful for the report's approval for it to be issued as scheduled.

Jeffrey Feltman
31 October 2013

cc: Mr. Ladsous
Ms. Haq
Mr. Kennedy



POC/04/006



Strictly Confidential

Note to the Deputy Secretary-General

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Jeffrey Feltman
31 October 2013

cc: Mr. Ladsous
Ms. Haq
Mr. Kennedy

POL/04/006



First report of the Secretary General pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 2110 (2013)

I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 6 of its resolution 2110 (2013), the Security Council requested me to report every four months on the progress made towards the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). The current report is the first submitted pursuant to that resolution. It covers key political and security developments related to Iraq, and provides an update on the activities of the United Nations in Iraq since the issuance of my report dated 11 July 2013 (S/2013/408).

II. Summary of key political development pertaining to Iraq

A. Internal Developments

2. During the reporting period, Iraq faced serious challenges in maintaining political stability, amid a deteriorating security situation. The political environment was dominated by preparations for the 2014 national parliamentary elections, in particular negotiations to reach a compromise on amending the General Elections Law. Recent national reconciliation initiatives brought a majority of political blocs together - a glimmer of hope after months of tensions.

3. The security situation continued to worsen, with almost daily attacks by terrorist and armed groups against civilians and the Iraqi security forces. Along with rising casualty figures, forced displacement on sectarian and ethnic basis has reemerged in several governorates. The Government of Iraq launched a large-scale security operation on 1 August against terrorist and armed groups, focusing on the areas surrounding Baghdad, as well as Anbar, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, and Diyala governorates. However, attacks continued unabated.

4. Political leaders made efforts to reinforce national unity. On 9 September, Vice President Khudair al-Khuzai, Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, and Speaker of the Council of Representatives Usama al-Nujaifi, along with heads of political blocs, held a meeting to announce a unified position on the situation in Syria. The statement by the three presidencies

contained eight points. Four points were Syria-specific, including the endorsement of the Government of Iraq's second roadmap for peace in Syria. The remaining four points dealt with the need for actors in Iraq to uphold dialogue, denounce sectarianism, and confront terrorism.

5. On 19 September, Vice President al-Khuzai convened the National Conference for Social Peace, which brought together the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the Council of Representatives, heads of political blocs, and tribal leaders, as well as representatives from civil society and international organizations, including UNAMI. The Conference launched the Social Peace Initiative, a national dialogue and reform process, and resulted in the signing of a National Code of Honour, a set of principles for this purpose. The Minister of State for Women's Affairs was the only female signatory to the National Code of Honour. Al-Iraqiya bloc leader Iyad Allawi, Deputy Prime Minister Saleh al-Mutlaq and Sadrist Trend representatives did not attend.

6. An ongoing lack of consensus on amending the General Elections Law (No. 16 of 2005) has raised concerns that the 2014 national parliamentary elections may be postponed. The Council of Representatives has repeatedly rescheduled the vote on the law due to disagreements between political blocs. The political blocs seek to resolve issues related to single and multiple constituencies, numbers of compensatory and minority seats, and the seat allocation method. Nevertheless, on 7 October, the Council of Representatives voted that the elections should be held no later than 30 April 2014 as per the constitution. A presidential decree has yet to be issued to this effect as required under article 5 of the General Elections Law.

7. Against this backdrop, the Independent High Electoral Commission has started the planning and initial preparations for the elections. On 24 September, the Council of Ministers allocated advance funds to the Commission amounting to 35 billion Iraqi dinars to update the voter registry, which is scheduled to commence in November, and for other preparations.

8. On 26 August, the Federal Supreme Court invalidated the Law on the Mandate of the Three Presidencies, thus eliminating the terms' limits for the Speaker of the Council of Representatives and the Prime Minister. The Council of Representatives had passed the law in January 2013. On the same day, the Court ruled that paragraphs 1 and 2 of article 23 of the

Law for the Governorate, District and Sub-district Council Elections, pertaining to Kirkuk, contradicted the constitutional provisions of non-discrimination amongst Iraqis. Nevertheless, the need for a special law for the governorate council elections in Kirkuk remains. On 16 September, the Federal Supreme Court invalidated the framework law of the Higher Judicial Council, a supreme administrative body of the Iraqi judiciary. As a result, Judge Medhat al-Mahmoud, was reinstated to the post of head of the Higher Judicial Council, a position he held between 2005 and 2012. He continues to serve as President of the Federal Supreme Court.

9. Protests continued in Anbar, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Kirkuk and Diyala governorates in the form of 'unified Friday prayers'. Compared to the past reporting period, the protests assumed a lower profile, partly due to increased attention to the protestors' demands by newly elected local administrations. Indeed, the Anbar governorate council elected Sabah Karhout, a member of the Arab Iraqiya party, as chairman, and Ahmed Khalaf al-Dulaimi, a member of the Muttahidoun party, as governor. In Ninewa, the governorate council re-elected Atheel al-Nujaifi, a known supporter of the protestors and Speaker al-Nujaifi's brother, as Governor. On 6 October, dialogue between the Government and the protestors resumed following a meeting between Prime Minister al-Maliki and the governor of Anbar, who was nominated by the demonstrators to represent their interests. While the meeting was described as positive and fruitful by the Prime Minister's office, no progress has been announced to date in addressing the demonstrators' demands.

10. On 31 August, thousands of protestors gathered in 14 governorates throughout Iraq to demonstrate against what they termed as "lavish" retirement benefits of parliamentary representatives and government officials, while also airing long-standing grievances about widespread corruption and the poor state of public services. As a response, on 3 September, the Council of Ministers endorsed the draft National Unified Pensions Law. The Council of Representatives has started considering the draft law. On 23 October, the Federal Supreme Court ruled as unconstitutional articles 3 and 4 (concerning the rights and privileges of the leadership and the members of the Council) of the Law on the Council of Representatives as far as matters related to their pensions are concerned. Nevertheless, other protests against pension benefits took place on 5 and 26 October throughout Iraq.

11. The parliamentary elections in the Kurdistan Region took place on 21 September. Over 6,300 polling stations opened on schedule for 2.65 million registered voters and conditional voting in prisons and hospitals. Advance special voting by security forces was conducted on 19 September with 372 polling stations for more than 150,000 military, police, and security personnel opening on time. Voter turnout reached 73.9 per cent for regular voting and 93.9 per cent for special voting. Observer reports were mainly positive, highlighting a smooth and orderly polling process as well as the professionalism of the Independent High Electoral Commission. On 2 October, the Commission announced the final election results with the Kurdistan Democratic Party winning 38 seats, the Gorran Movement – 24 seats, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) – 18 seats, the Kurdistan Islamic Union – 10 seats, and the Kurdistan Islamic Group – 6 seats. Pursuant to the quota system, 11 seats were distributed among Turkmen, Christian, and Armenian minorities. Women gained 34 out of 111 seats. Following the announcement of the final results, the Electoral Judicial Panel adjudicated and rejected a total of 60 appeals.

12. At the same time, preparations for the Kurdistan Region's governorate council elections have stalled. The Independent High Electoral Commission extended the deadline for nomination of candidates three times, significantly affecting its operational timeline. While a number of political parties were late in submitting their lists, some, including the PUK, failed to do so. On 6 October, the Commission informed the Kurdistan Regional Government that it is no longer in a position to conduct the elections as scheduled on 21 November. The Commission also recommended not holding the governorate council elections before the national parliamentary elections.

B. Regional and international developments

13. The conflict in Syria continued to adversely impact the humanitarian, security and political situation in Iraq. On 5 September, the Government of Iraq presented its second roadmap for peace in Syria, based on an initiative discussed at the Summit of the League of Arab States held in Baghdad in March 2012. The nine-point roadmap called for an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire, ceasing all support to both sides of the conflict, the withdrawal of foreign fighters from Syrian territory, support for the continuation of any United Nations investigation into chemical weapons attacks, ceasing all foreign intervention, establishment of an Arab Fund to facilitate the return of Syrian refugees, holding bilateral talks between the

Government and opposition under United Nations supervision, reaching an agreement on a mechanism to establish an interim government in Syria, and holding national elections to form a new government. In September, Speaker al-Nujaifi visited Ankara and Tehran to introduce the Government of Iraq's roadmap.

14. On 4 September, Minister for Foreign Affairs Hoshyar Zebari participated in a ministerial-level conference in Geneva organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for the neighboring countries hosting Syrian refugees. He stated that Iraq needed assistance from donor countries and humanitarian partners to address the issue of Syrian refugees and called for greater regional efforts to find a sustainable political solution to the conflict in Syria. On 30 September, Minister for Foreign Affairs Zebari also participated in the high-level UNHCR meeting in Geneva on the Syrian humanitarian crisis. As part of a regional tour, the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States for Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi, visited Iraq on 21 October where he met with Prime Minister al-Maliki, Minister for Foreign Affairs Zebari and Deputy Prime Minister Hussein al-Shahristani to discuss preparations for the Geneva II conference.

15. Relations between Iraq and Kuwait continued to improve during the reporting period. On 23 August, the Council of Representatives ratified the 29 April 2012 agreement between Iraq and Kuwait on navigation and joint management of the Khor Abdallah waterway. On 6 October and 27-30 October, Iraqi and Kuwaiti officials met in Kuwait to prepare for the next joint ministerial committee meeting scheduled for December in Kuwait and discuss bilateral issues, including the implementation of the agreement on Khor Abdallah and the activation of the bilateral technical commission for maintaining the physical representation of the boundary between the two countries. On 22 October, the Government of Iraq approved the opening of two Kuwaiti consulates in Erbil and Basra.

16. On 9 September, the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) announced the suspension of its withdrawal from Turkey into Iraqi territory. On 10 October, the Turkish Parliament approved a motion to extend for one year the authorization for the Turkish armed forces to carry out incursions into northern Iraq in pursuit of PKK fighters. On 22 October, the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Parliament met with senior Iraqi officials in Baghdad. He also delivered an invitation from Prime Minister Erdoğan to Prime Minister al-

Maliki to visit Ankara. On 24-25 October, Minister for Foreign Affairs Zebari met with senior Turkish officials in Ankara with a view to improving bilateral relations.

17. On 26 September, the Council of Representatives ratified the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, signed by the Government on 19 August 2008.

III. Update on the activities of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq and the United Nations country team

A. Political Activities

18. My Special Representative and Deputy Special Representative for Political Affairs continued to advocate for progress on political and security issues, including upcoming national parliamentary elections, reconciliation initiatives, the impact of the Syrian crisis and countering violence and terrorism.

19. Since assuming his responsibilities on 25 September, my Special Representative has had a series of meetings with Iraqi political leaders. On 26 September, he met with Prime Minister al-Maliki to discuss the political situation in the country, national reconciliation, including UNAMI's role in supporting national dialogue, as well as the delivery of basic services. On 29 September, my Special Representative held meetings with the Speaker of the Council of Representatives and the heads of the National Alliance, Kurdistan Alliance and Iraqiya political blocs to facilitate an agreement on amending the General Elections Law. On 5 and 6 October, he visited the Kurdistan Region where he met with the President of the Kurdistan Region Massoud Barzani, the Prime Minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government, Nechirvan Barzani, and other officials. He urged all parties to reach a compromise as soon as possible and ensure adherence to the constitutionally mandated electoral timeframe.

20. During the reporting period, UNAMI continued to encourage constructive dialogue between the Government and the demonstrators in the western governorates, reiterating the need to address the demands of the protesters, and stressing its readiness to play a facilitating role. In this regard, UNAMI has been in contact with the office of Deputy Prime Minister al-

Shahristani, who heads the inter-ministerial committee overseeing the release of unlawfully held detainees.

21. On 24-25 July and 12 September, my Deputy Special Representative for Political Affairs held several meetings with political leaders, members of the Independent High Electoral Commission, and the diplomatic community in the Kurdistan Region to discuss the Region's parliamentary and governorate council elections. He highlighted the importance of holding timely elections and called on political parties in the Kurdistan Region to fully cooperate with the Commission, to avoid further delays in the electoral process.

22. On 17 July, as part of UNAMI's commitment to support women's political participation in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), my Deputy Special Representative for Political Affairs met with female parliamentarians from various blocs and members of the 'Women for Lasting Peace Initiative', at a meeting organized by UN Women and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Subsequent advocacy led to the inclusion of language on advancing women's socio-economic rights in the document related to the Social Peace Initiative.

23. On 18-19 August, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs visited Baghdad and met with senior officials, including Prime Minister al-Maliki, Speaker al-Nujaifi, Deputy Prime Minister al-Mutlaq, Minister for Foreign Affairs Zebari, and the head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, Ammar al-Hakim. While the primary objective of his visit was to discuss the situation in Syria, he took the opportunity to raise the political and security situation, the upcoming national parliamentary elections, ways to build up momentum towards national reconciliation, and other regional developments.

B. Electoral Assistance

24. During the reporting period, United Nations electoral assistance activities focused on the preparations for the parliamentary elections in the Kurdistan Region, as well as the now postponed governorate council elections there. UNAMI continued to lead the United Nations integrated electoral assistance team in supporting the Independent High Electoral Commission in the finalization of the legal and regulatory framework, operational plans and procedures and its external relations and communication strategies. UNAMI also provided

technical advice to the Council of Representatives' legal affairs committee regarding amendments to the General Elections Law.

25. As the Commission explores the feasibility of adopting new technologies for conducting voter registration and elections, UNAMI provides technical advice. UNAMI has highlighted the importance of careful planning and testing, awareness-raising, and political consensus in implementing the planned electronic voter registration project, including the pilot component on voter biometric data collection that is planned to commence by the first quarter of 2014. UNAMI also recommended the inclusion of additional election integrity measures which pertain to processes at the intake and audit centers and polling regulations and procedures.

C. Human Rights Developments and Activities

26. Violence and acts of terrorism have increased in Iraq to levels not seen since 2008. According to figures released by UNAMI, nearly 2,900 civilians were killed and another 7,000 were injured from acts during the reporting period, as of 28 October. Scores of coordinated attacks were carried out, mostly in Baghdad, Anbar, Salah al-Din, Ninewa, Kirkuk and Diyala governorates, targeting areas where civilians gather, including cafés, restaurants, parks, playgrounds, mosques, markets, and even funerals.

27. UNAMI has monitored prisons and places of detention under the responsibility of the Ministry of Justice, which is implementing reforms aimed at improving the conditions of prisons and detention centers. In many prisons, UNAMI continued to observe overcrowding and lack of adequate health services. UNAMI also noted a significant number of cases of prolonged detention owing to lengthy trial or appeal procedures and a lack of special programmes for female detainees and prisoners to ensure their reintegration into society after release.

28. UNAMI has not yet been granted access to detention centers under the authority of the Ministry of Interior. UNAMI nevertheless received reports of abuse, mistreatment and, at times, torture of many detainees and prisoners in these facilities prior to charge and transfer to facilities under the authority of the Ministry of Justice, in particular with regard to persons detained under the Anti-Terrorism Law number 13 of 2005.

29. Weaknesses in the judicial system and the administration of justice are of concern. UNAMI has recorded a large number of cases where courts relied on confessions or evidence of secret informants to support convictions, even when accused persons claimed that these confessions were obtained through coercion or torture. UNAMI remains active in working with the Government of Iraq to address problems confronting the administration of justice. UNAMI has made recommendations to the Ministry of Justice on improving conditions of detention in prisons under its jurisdiction and on ways to enhance respect for due process. UNAMI advocated reforming the Anti-Terrorism Law, in particular the provision that currently permits indefinite detention of persons suspected of committing acts of terrorism without charge or trial. UNAMI also conducted several workshops, trainings and seminars for officials engaged in the administration of justice to ensure compliance with due process, fair trial standards and other rights guaranteed by the Constitution and international law binding on Iraq.

30. Iraq continues to implement the death penalty for serious crimes, particularly those relating to terrorism. Eighty-seven individuals, including one Egyptian national and one woman, were executed between 5 August and 9 October, after being convicted under Article 4 of the Anti-Terrorism Law and criminal charges. The Ministry of Justice has repeatedly stated that Iraq will continue to carry out executions. On 12 August, the Ministry of Justice announced that it had drafted amendments to the criminal procedure code to ensure that no terrorist would escape implementation of the death penalty.

31. UNAMI received reports of attacks and threats of violence against ethnic and religious groups. As a result, 160 Sunni families from Basra and Dhi Qar governorates moved to Salah al-Din and Anbar governorates. 250 Shabak families were displaced from Mosul to Basheqa, Bartela, Hamdaniya in the south-east of the governorate. Violence in the mixed districts of Diyala governorate has led to the displacement of 250 Sunni families into other areas of the governorate and into the Kurdistan Region. A smaller number of families, including Turkmens, also fled from various governorates into Kerbala, Najaf and Wassit governorates. Since the beginning of the year, bombings and sectarian tensions have displaced over 5,000 Iraqis, adding to the 1.13 million internally displaced persons that fled their homes amidst the 2006-2008 sectarian violence in Iraq.

32. UNAMI continued to support the article 125 committee of the Council of Representatives to ensure that the law for the protection of the rights of ethnic and religious minority communities meets international standards. On 10 September and 2 October, UNAMI facilitated meetings on the draft law. Participants examined comments from civil society organizations and revised the draft law article by article. However, the article 125 committee's work faces challenges regarding the structure of the draft law, its terminology and implementing mechanisms.

33. On 7 September, the Council of Representatives endorsed the Law for the Care of Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs. However, there remain concerns about those aspects of the law that do not fully comply with Iraq's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, particularly in relation to the establishment of an independent oversight mechanism. Signed on 23 January 2012, the Convention was ratified on 10 February 2013. The Government of Iraq is expected to respond to UNAMI's proposed amendments drafted in partnership with the Council of Representatives' human rights committee and the Iraqi Alliance for Disability Organization to ensure the law's conformity with the Convention.

34. There are continuing concerns about the respect for the right of freedom of expression. On 25 August, the Prime Minister's office sent a letter to the Ministry of Interior ordering unregistered media outlets to be closed if they failed to obtain licenses or register with the Communications and Media Commission within three months. On 13 September, the Ministry of Interior closed al-Baghdadia television channel on this basis. Media outlets have since alleged that they have obtained licenses and paid fees, but that the processing had been slow. At times, licenses were allegedly denied without stating valid reasons.

35. National regulations governing the holding of lawful assemblies are of particular concern, as conditions under which the authorities can refuse permission to hold demonstrations or the process by which authorizations can be obtained, are not clearly stated. UNAMI received reports that the authorities prevented a number of demonstrations from taking place, particularly in Baghdad, based on political and other considerations. In early August, demonstrations against corruption and violence were prevented by the authorities in Baghdad, and 13 people were allegedly arrested on the grounds that the demonstrators had failed to obtain the necessary authorization. The authorities also prevented demonstrations

against pension benefits, mentioned earlier in this report, on the grounds that participants were at risk of terrorist attack.

36. Women throughout Iraq continued to be subjected to domestic and other forms of violence, including so-called 'honor-crimes'. The Family Protection Law, which aims to protect the victims of domestic violence, remains stalled in the Council of Representatives. UN Women, with the support of UNAMI and UNDP, has provided technical support and advice on the Government of Iraq's Draft Policy for Safe Houses, Holding and Referral Centres for Women at Risk. The creation of shelters for women at risk is one of the key recommendations identified in the National Strategy for Combating Violence against Women, which was endorsed by the Council of Ministers in March 2013.

37. Children continue to be gravely affected by violence and acts of terrorism. Claims by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant that it intended to intensify attacks against schools, coinciding with the start of the new academic year are particularly worrisome. On 6 October, a suicide bomber drove a truck packed with explosives into the playground of a primary school in Tal Afar in Ninewa governorate, killing 10 schoolchildren and injuring over 90. The United Nations country task force on monitoring and reporting violations against children, found that at least 95 children were killed and 165 were injured during the reporting period, mostly as a result of waves of coordinated attacks in civilian areas. Concerns remain over children indicted or convicted on terrorism-related charges under article 4 of the Anti-Terrorism Law and their conditions of detention, which often do not meet minimum international standards of juvenile justice. A formal mechanism of collaboration on child protection between the country task force and the Government remains to be established.

Camp New Iraq and Camp Hurriya

38. On 1 September, Camp New Iraq was subject to an attack by unidentified gunmen that left 52 residents dead. On the following day, my Deputy Special Representative for Political Affairs visited the camp. Responsibility for this attack and the fate of seven unaccounted for residents remain undetermined. The Government of Iraq formed an investigation committee to look into the incident but no findings have been disclosed yet. The Government further indicated that it could no longer guarantee the safety and security of the remaining 42 residents in Camp New Iraq. On 11 September, as a result of UNAMI's facilitation, the 42

residents were peacefully transferred to Camp Hurriya. In protest of the attack and the alleged abduction of seven residents, an unconfirmed number of residents have allegedly been on a hunger strike.

39. The Government of Iraq has indicated its intention to implement a court order regarding the residents' moveable property remaining in Camp New Iraq. The Government requested the residents to appoint a representative to sit on a court-appointed committee established to draw up an inventory of the moveable property and organize its disposal. The residents have refused to cooperate with the committee and have not appointed a lawyer or representative.

40. In relation to Camp Hurriya, my Deputy Special Representative for Political Affairs urged the Iraqi authorities to meet the residents' requests for extra security measures. As of 28 October, 696 small T walls and 1,488 large T walls, 355 bunkers and 40,000 sandbags had been permitted by the Iraqi authorities into the camp. However, the Government of Iraq continues to refuse the residents' request for personal protective equipment on the basis that these are intended for defensive, rather than protective purposes.

41. United Nations monitors in Camp Hurriya continued to receive reports that the leadership of the Mujahedin e-Khalq (MeK) has been preventing the residents from leaving the Camp or participating in the UNHCR processes. Some residents also reported that the MeK leadership restricted their movement around the camp, forced them to undertake self-criticism, prevented their contact with family inside and outside of Camp Hurriya, restricted their access to medical care, and prohibited their interaction with the monitors.

42. On 1 October, Camp Hurriya residents resumed participation in the UNHCR process of identifying their international protection needs, following a boycott of the process since the February 2013 attack on Camp Hurriya. As of 28 October, UNHCR has registered 3,153 individuals and conducted in-depth interviews of 2,067 individuals. A total of 1,626 individuals have been determined to have international protection needs.

43. In parallel, UNHCR is seeking durable solutions for individuals. As of 28 October, a total of 286 residents have been relocated outside of Iraq, including 61 residents through the consular readmission to eight countries, 12 individuals through resettlement to five countries, and 213 individuals through humanitarian admission to three countries. On 23 October, the

Department of Political Affairs launched a Trust Fund initiative to cover the costs related to the relocation process. On 24 October, the Government of the United States of America pledged USD 1 million to the Trust Fund.

D. Humanitarian and Development Assistance

44. One of the major priorities for the United Nations in Iraq has been the response to the influx of Syrian refugees, in particular in the Kurdistan Region. UNHCR, along with the Ministry of Migration and Displacement, leads the humanitarian response, assisted by United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, the International Organization for Migration and non-governmental organizations.

45. On 15 August, the Kurdistan Regional Government re-opened the border with Syria allowing over 50,000 Syrians to cross into the Kurdistan Region. As a result, by the end of October, the total number of Syrian refugees registered in Iraq stands at approximately 200,000. Most Syrian refugees continue to arrive and settle in the Erbil, Dohuk and Suleymaniya governorates where numerous transit centres have been established. A large majority of Syrians stay in non-camp areas hosted by local communities, but camp populations are also increasing. As the Domiz camp population has approached roughly 55,000, decongestion efforts have begun with the construction on newly allocated land surrounding the camp. In addition, five new camps are in development: four in Erbil Governorate (Darashakran, Kawergosk, Qushtapa and Basirma) with a total capacity of 32,000, and one in Suleymaniya (Arbat) that will accommodate 15,000 people. On 29 September, UNHCR started transferring refugees to Darashakran camp.

46. In al-Qaim, in the Anbar governorate, two existing camps were merged and relocated to a third camp, al-Obaidi, which accommodates nearly 2,000 Syrian refugees. Another 3,000 refugees are living with the host community in the town of al-Qaim. Reports indicate that about 6,000 and 17,000 Syrians returned to Syria from the Anbar governorate and the Kurdistan Region, respectively.

47. During the reporting period, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) provided classrooms, including water and sanitation facilities, and education materials for 13,300 children and their teachers in refugee camps in the Kurdistan Region. In addition, three new

schools are being built in camps, which will provide places for a further 2,160 children. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) co-financed the construction of two secondary schools in Domiz and Darashakran camps for 1,000 students, and provided training for teachers for both schools. In the area of water, sanitation and hygiene services, UNICEF provided assistance to 191,800 refugees, including provision of safe drinking water, emergency toilets and bathing units.

48. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) equipped camps with reproductive and maternal health units while the World Health Organization (WHO) provided pharmaceuticals to both governmental and non-governmental partners for the treatment of refugees in camps and in the host community. WHO also established within the camps an early warning system, a critical measure in view of recent reports of cases of wild poliovirus in Syria. In September, UNDP initiated a reporting mechanism to track sexual and gender-based violence and trafficking regarding 25,000 women and girl refugees living in the camps. The reports will inform and guide policies of the Kurdistan Region's Directorate for Combating Violence Against Women and Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare Affairs.

49. The United Nations country team continued to support the Government of Iraq in its efforts to address the root causes of inequality, poverty and marginalization. On 16 September, the Government of Iraq launched the National Development Plan for 2013–2017. The Plan notes strong growth in per capita income and progress against a number of the Millennium Development Goals but also the persistence of significant development challenges. The Plan calls for an investment of approximately USD 370 billion, including USD 88 billion from the private sector, to address these challenges. Some of the strategies proposed under the Plan include: diversifying the economy and overcoming the high reliance on the oil sector by developing agriculture, energy and tourism; providing opportunities for private sector development; reducing unemployment to 6 per cent; further reducing the poverty rate; raising the level of net enrolment in primary, intermediate and secondary schools to 95 percent, 45 percent and 30 percent respectively; upgrading health service delivery; broadening opportunities for women and youth; reducing the development gap between urban and rural areas; combating desertification; and ensuring more effective water management. The Government of Iraq has requested the United Nations to prepare a new Development Assistance Framework to align with the Plan.

50. On 24 September, the Council of Ministers endorsed a five-year public sector reform package for 2014-2018, which aims at improving public service delivery and democratic governance in several sectors, including through gender-responsive budgeting, e-governance and overhaul of the national statistical system. Eight members of the United Nations country team, including UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UN Women, UNESCO and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia, are working together to support the reform package.

51. Working with the High Committee for Public Distribution System Reform, the World Food Programme initiated a pilot programme on a national electronic public distribution system, which will enable beneficiaries to collect food allowances using smart cards, rather than relying on food distributions. Using this technology, 42,000 internally displaced persons and returnees benefitted from a Cash-for-Assets project in the governorates of Baghdad, Diyala and Ninewa, during which participation in public works is paid through smart cards.

52. On 20 August UNDP inaugurated a legal aid help desk inside the Basra courthouse. At the desk, free legal assistance is provided, with a focus on assisting vulnerable women and victims of domestic and gender-based violence. Placing the legal help desk physically in the courthouse contributes to addressing issues related to accessing legal assistance. During the reporting period, three legal aid help desks established by UNDP in northern Iraq helped over 11,000 people with legal advice, guidance, and, in some cases, full legal representation. As part of its partnership with the private sector, UNDP and Shell Iraq Petroleum Development BV opened two newly rehabilitated schools on 1 October that will support the education of approximately 800 primary school children in southern Iraq's al-Nashwa community. UNDP has supported the Office of the National Security Advisor in developing a new National Security Strategy, including lessons learnt from the previous strategy and advice to ensure the process is participatory and inclusive of diverse stakeholders, including the Council of Representatives, academia and civil society organizations representing women and youth.

53. The United Nations continued to work with the Government of Iraq and neighboring countries to encourage cooperation on the trans-boundary environmental issue of sand and dust storms. UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNSECO and the Food and Agriculture Organization are providing support to the Government of Iraq in addressing the three inter-linked issues of drought, desertification, and sand and dust storms.

UNEP opened lines of cooperation between relevant Iraqi institutions and the Spanish Meteorological Agency on dust modelling and assessment and with the Chinese Ecosystem Management Centre for dust storms' mitigation strategies.

E. Security and operational issues

54. During the reporting period, an average of 30 security incidents per day occurred throughout Iraq, double the number during the same period last year. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant claimed responsibility for a massive coordinated attack on 21 July on Abu Ghraib and Taji prisons, which resulted in the escape of up to 1,000 members of terrorist groups, the killing of at least 72 persons and wounding of dozens of others, including prison guards, detainees, and assailants. According to the Ministry of Interior, some 350 escaped prisoners have been re-arrested to date. The attack coincided with the first anniversary of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant's announcement of its "Breaking the Walls" campaign. On 29 July, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant launched a new campaign called "Harvest of the Soldiers".

55. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant also claimed responsibility for the 29 September attack on the headquarters of the Asayish security services in Erbil, during which seven were killed and 62 injured, the first major such incident in the Kurdistan Region since 2007. On 20-21 October, elements of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant paraded and temporarily seized government and security buildings in Falluja in Anbar governorate. The activity of Shiite armed groups also increased during the reporting period, particularly in Baghdad and southern governorates, with the setting up of illegal checkpoints and targeting of Sunni civilians and mosques.

56. The Government's large-scale security campaign, termed "Revenge for the Martyrs" and undertaken in response to serious incidents, has included checkpoints and inspections, enhanced patrols along the border with Syria, interdiction of arms smuggling, and the capture of militants, prison escapees and others suspected of involvement in terrorism, as well as a tightening of security measures around and within the Green Zone in Baghdad.

57. UNAMI continued to expend a significant amount of resources and time in trying to overcome processes and procedures imposed by the Government of Iraq regarding customs

and immigration. As a result, critical and life-saving equipment such as ambulances have remained at the Safwan border crossing point for almost a year awaiting customs clearance. Also, after a period of one year, UNAMI still awaits approval by the Government of Iraq for the import of ammunition that is crucial for the training and operational capacity of its close protection officers. Visas are still required upon every entry for all United Nations Guard Unit personnel as well as consultants travelling on national passports, which restrict their deployment and movement.

58. On a related note, it has not yet been possible to conclude and bring into force a status-of-mission agreement for UNAMI. Since my last report, the Government has reverted to the United Nations with proposed changes to the draft agreement to which the United Nations responded with extensive clarifications and with proposed adjustments. With these clarifications and adjustments, it is expected that the agreement can be concluded in the near future, as the absence of an agreement continues to significantly hamper and impair the effectiveness of the Mission.

VI. Observations

59. I welcome the recent initiatives by the Iraqi political leadership to pursue national reconciliation, in particular within the framework of the National Conference for Social Peace. The resulting National Code of Honour with its set of principles for a national dialogue and reforms needs to be supported by all parties. It is crucial that the momentum around the Conference be further invigorated by empowering follow-up mechanisms to reduce tensions and establish a solid foundation for national reconciliation. Women, whose growing political marginalization is worrisome, should be meaningfully included in all political processes.

60. I remain deeply concerned by the resurgence of extremism and radicalization, which threatens Iraq's social cohesion and may disrupt the ongoing efforts for national reconciliation. I believe due attention should be paid to the creation of an environment conducive to addressing extremism and combating terrorism. In this regard, it is important to accelerate equitable political participation at the national and local levels, consolidate democratic processes and institutions, as well as civil society, and foster economic

development, through job creation, delivery of services and fighting corruption. Political leaders from all sides have a clear responsibility for leading and facilitating a decisive and inclusive action to that end. The United Nations stands ready to provide the necessary support.

61. I commend the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Independent High Electoral Commission, who have demonstrated maturity, technical capability and professionalism in conducting three successive electoral events. Under their leadership, the Commission continues to prepare for crucial elections ahead, including the 2014 national parliamentary elections. I urge all parties concerned to take steps to ensure the timely holding of the elections and to agree on a compromise for the immediate passage of the amended General Elections Law in line with constitutional provisions. I also urge the members of the Council of Representatives to further strengthen electoral law measures that guarantee the representation and meaningful participation of women and minorities. My Special Representative will continue to work with all the concerned parties toward reaching an agreement that will ensure the timely holding of the national parliamentary elections.

62. While I welcome the smooth conduct of the 21 September parliamentary elections in the Kurdistan Region, I am concerned about the postponement of the governorate council elections in the Region. Agreeing on holding elections in the Kirkuk governorate is also important. I urge all parties to redouble their efforts to hold elections as soon as possible in these four governorates and ensure citizens can exercise their legitimate right to choose their representatives.

63. I am pleased with the continued improvement in relations between Iraq and Kuwait. I hope that this improvement in bilateral relations will result in even greater confidence and stronger economic, commercial and cultural ties between the two countries. I also hope that this positive development will lead to the improvement of Iraq's relations with other neighbors in the interest of regional stability.

64. I remain concerned about the adverse humanitarian, security and political impact on Iraq caused by the conflict in Syria. I am grateful for the Government of Iraq's efforts and readiness to contribute to a political solution. Notwithstanding its legitimate security concerns, I urge the Government of Iraq to continue providing shelter to civilians fleeing the

Syrian conflict. Although more resources are needed, I am pleased there has been meaningful progress in terms of creating additional camps and delivering assistance to those who are settled outside camps.

65. On the use of the death penalty, I appeal again to the Government of Iraq to impose, as a matter of urgency, a moratorium on the implementation of the death penalty in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions.

66. I am encouraged by the cooperation extended by the Ministry of Justice to UNAMI by giving it access to prisons under its jurisdiction. I reiterate my appeal to the Ministry of Interior to extend the same cooperation. I encourage the Government of Iraq to continue to reform the judicial system and processes. I also encourage it to amend the regulations governing demonstrations to ensure that any restrictions placed on the peaceful exercise of the right of freedom of assembly fully complies with the Constitution of Iraq and Iraq's international legal obligations.

67. I strongly condemn the attack on Camp New Iraq on 1 September. I urge the Government to swiftly disclose the findings of its investigation and bring the perpetrators to justice. This tragic event underlines the urgency of relocating all Camp Hurriya residents outside of Iraq. I reiterate my appeal to Member States to contribute to a durable solution by accepting residents into their territories and contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund recently established for this purpose.

68. I call on the Government of Iraq's support in swiftly ensuring the finalization, signing and entry into force of the status-of-mission agreement without further delay. This necessary step will be mutually beneficial to the United Nations and the Government of Iraq.

69. Lastly, I would like to thank my Special Representative, Nickolay Mladenov, as well as all the United Nations staff for their hard work and dedicated commitment, often under challenging circumstances, to support the people and the Government of Iraq.

**Security Council**Distr.: General
24 July 2013**Resolution 2110 (2013)****Adopted by the Security Council at its 7008th meeting, on
24 July 2013***The Security Council,*

Recalling all its previous relevant resolutions on Iraq, in particular 1500 (2003), 1546 (2004), 1557 (2004), 1619 (2005), 1700 (2006), 1770 (2007), 1830 (2008), 1883 (2009), 1936 (2010), 2001 (2011), 2061 (2012), and resolution 2107 (2013) on the situation between Iraq and Kuwait,

Reaffirming the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq,

Emphasizing the importance of the stability and security of Iraq for the people of Iraq, the region, and the international community,

Encouraging the Government of Iraq to continue strengthening democracy and the rule of law, improving security and public order and combating terrorism and sectarian violence across the country, and *reiterating* its support to the people and the Government of Iraq in their efforts to build a secure, stable, federal, united and democratic nation, based on the rule of law and respect for human rights,

Welcoming improvements in the situation in Iraq achieved through concerted political and security efforts and *stressing* that challenges to security in Iraq still exist and that improvements need to be sustained through meaningful political dialogue and national unity,

Underscoring the need for all communities in Iraq to participate in the political process and an inclusive political dialogue, to refrain from making statements and actions which could aggravate tensions, to reach a comprehensive solution on the distribution of resources, and to ensure stability and develop a just and fair solution for the nation's disputed internal boundaries and work towards national unity,

Reaffirming the importance of the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), in advising, supporting and assisting the Iraqi people, including civil society, and Government to strengthen democratic institutions, advance inclusive political dialogue and national reconciliation according to the Constitution, facilitate regional dialogue, develop processes acceptable to the Government of Iraq to resolve disputed internal boundaries, aid



youth and vulnerable groups including refugees and internally displaced persons, promote the protection of human rights, gender equality, youth, and vulnerable groups, and promote judicial and legal reform, and *emphasizing* the importance of the United Nations, in particular UNAMI, prioritizing advice, support, and assistance to the Iraqi people, including civil society, and Government to achieve these goals,

Urging the Government of Iraq to continue to promote and protect human rights and also to consider additional steps to support the Independent High Commission for Human Rights in carrying out its mandate,

Recognizing the efforts of the Government of Iraq in the promotion and protection of the human rights of women and *reaffirming* its resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), and 2106 (2013) on women, peace, and security and *reiterating* the need for the full, equal, and effective participation of women; *reaffirming* the key role women can play in re-establishing the fabric of society and *stressing* the need for their full political participation, including in the development of national strategies in order to take into account their perspectives,

Expressing the importance of addressing humanitarian issues confronting the Iraqi people and *stressing* the need to continue to form a coordinated response and to provide adequate resources to address these issues,

Underscoring the sovereignty of the Government of Iraq, *reaffirming* that all parties should continue to take all feasible steps and to develop modalities to ensure the protection of affected civilians, including children, women and members of religious and ethnic minority groups, and should create conditions conducive to the voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable return of refugees and internally displaced persons or local integration of internally displaced persons, *welcoming* commitments and encouraging continued efforts of the Government of Iraq for the relief of internally displaced persons, refugees and returnees, and *noting* the important role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, based on its mandate, in providing continued advice and support to the Government of Iraq, in coordination with UNAMI on these issues,

Urging all those concerned, as set forth in international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions and the Hague Regulations, to allow full unimpeded access by humanitarian personnel to all people in need of assistance, and to make available, as far as possible, all necessary facilities for their operations, and to promote the safety, security, and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel and their assets,

Recognizing that the situation that now exists in Iraq is significantly different from that which existed at the time of the adoption of resolution 661 (1990), and further recognizing the importance of Iraq achieving international standing equal to that which it held prior to the adoption of resolution 661 (1990),

Welcoming the ratification of the Additional Protocol to its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement,

Expressing deep gratitude to all the United Nations staff in Iraq for their courageous and tireless efforts, and commending the leadership of the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Iraq, Martin Kobler,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) until July 31, 2014;
2. *Decides further* that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UNAMI, at the request of the Government of Iraq, and taking into account the letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq to the Secretary-General (S/2013/430, annex), shall continue to pursue their mandate as stipulated in resolution 2061 (2012); and recalls the provisions of resolution 2107 (2013);
3. *Recognizes* that security of United Nations personnel is essential for UNAMI to carry out its work for the benefit of the people of Iraq and calls upon the Government of Iraq to continue to provide security and logistical support to the United Nations presence in Iraq;
4. *Welcomes* the contributions of Member States in providing UNAMI with the financial, logistical, and security resources and support that it needs to fulfil its mission and calls upon Member States to continue to provide UNAMI with sufficient resources and support;
5. *Expresses* its intention to review the mandate of UNAMI in twelve months or sooner, if requested by the Government of Iraq;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council every four months on the progress made towards the fulfilment of all UNAMI's responsibilities;
7. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.