

*Delegation for relations with Iraq***D-IQ\_PV(2011)0922\_1****MINUTES**  
of the meeting of 22 September 2011, from 10.30 to 11.30  
Brussels

The meeting opened at 10.50 on Thursday, 22 September 2011, with Struan Stevenson (Chair) in the chair.

## 1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE 469.654)

The agenda was approved.

## 2. Approval of minutes of the meeting of 12 July 2011 (PE 469.643)

The minutes of the meeting of 12 July 2011 were approved.

## 3. Chair's announcements

The Chair recalled his recent intervention in the European Parliament plenary meeting, regarding Camp Ashraf. He informed also about recent UNHCR actions, namely beginning of conducting individual interviews with Camp residents that requested the determination of refugee status.

In this context, he appealed Iraqi authorities to extend the deadline of 31 December 2011 announced for the dismantling of the Camp, as much more time is needed for UNHCR interviews.

The representative of the Iraqi Embassy responded that the Iraqi government is resolved to meet the 31 December 2011 deadline for dismantling of the camp, while stressing the commitment to respect the human rights and assuring that no military action and no violence will be taken from the authorities.

The Chair informed that the invitations were sent to the Members of the Iraqi Parliament representing the minorities (the Caucus group) in order to participate at the meeting of the

Delegation on 5 October 2011, and that expressions of interest were already received from a large number of the invited guests. He thanked the Office for Promotion of Parliamentary Democracy (OPPD) within the European Parliament for the contribution to an enriched programme for the Iraqi Members of Parliament.

With regard to the conference "Investments opportunities in Iraq", planned for the beginning of December 2011, as a result of discussions during the inter-parliamentary mission in Iraq in April this year, the Chair informed that preparations continue at the level of internal coordination within the European Parliament.

He informed also on a very recent news from the European Commission, Directorate General Energy, who was also involved in organising this important event, and who is considering postponing the conference, for the first part of next year, in order to have more time for a high level preparation and participation, as well as for taking into account the current political developments in the region.

In this context, he appreciated that, if the information is confirmed, the European Parliament should coordinate with the European Commission and join the efforts for organising, next year, a substantial, highest level event. The Chair will update Members on this issue as soon as possible.

4. Presentation and exchange of views on the IRC report entitled "Iraqi Displacement: Eight years later durable solutions still out of reach", in the presence of Ms Laura Jacoby, Country Director of the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Iraq and Ms Mory Cunningham, NGO Coordination Committee for Iraq (NCCI)

The representatives of International Rescue Committee in Iraq and of NGO Coordination Committee for Iraq held presentations on the very recent IRC report "Iraqi Displacement: Eight years later durable solutions still out of reach", as well as on civil society and human rights situation in Iraq. The Iraqi Embassy held also a presentation on these subjects.

The IRC representative presented as main findings of their report that while the security situation has improved, is still not conducive to voluntary return for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) or refugees. It is critical to support citizen input to improved systems of governance. She underlined the importance of recognizing and addressing unique needs of IDPs.

She stressed that large scale displacements have stopped, but a surge of displacements of Christians has occurred after the church bombings in late 2010. Also, the IDPs in Iraq, especially those living in camps, have problems in accessing public services. Problems persist also when the displaced persons are trying to go back to their area of origin.

As recommendations, the international donors are called to continue to work with the Iraqi government for an effective plan both for solving the IDPs crisis and for managing safe and voluntary returns of Iraqi refugees.

The Iraqi Embassy recalled that there were a lot of Iraqi migrants inside and outside the country especially in Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Lebanon. They appreciated that the recent improvement in the security situation in the country facilitated the return of numbers of displaced Iraqi people to their places of origin. Moreover, the Iraqi Government works to

solve the internal problems for the displaced and the refugees to facilitate and accelerate their voluntary return to their locations. In 2009, it had adopted the Migration and Displacement Law (No 21) by which a concerned ministry is committed to solve the problems of migrants and displaced people. Iraq is coordinating with the UN, its specialized agencies and UNAMI, in addition to UNHCR, ICRC, IMO, for finding solutions for this humanitarian problem.

The Iraqi Government has taken the following steps that led to an increased number of returnees:

- Improving security and political stability.
- Facilitating return-related procedures.
- Implementing the Humanitarian Stability and Security Program.
- Exemption from customs duties.
- Facilitating the return of government civil servants to their jobs, and give the unemployed the priority when hiring.

The NCCI, a consortium of 80 NGO members: 45 International NGOs and 35 Local Iraqi NGOs,

The NCCI representative referred to four interconnected areas that demonstrate potential to increase protection and promotion of Human Rights in Iraq:

- Iraq 's *Arab Spring* and civil society actors
- NGO registration processes
- Laws related to Freedom of Expression
- Funding for civil society

She drew the attention on the new law adopted in January 2010 by the Iraqi government on the registration of NGOs, appreciating its liberal character, while stressing though that operationally is blocked (from approximately 1500 legal local NGOs in Iraq, less than 100 have been registered according to the new law and from the 80 international NGOs only 5 have registered).

The Chair invited IRC and NCCI representatives to attend also the meeting of 5 October, if possible, in order to share with Iraqi MPs the conclusions of their studies.

5. Any other business
6. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 5 October in Brussels.

The meeting closed at 12.00.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/  
 ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/  
 LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRS/DALYVIŲ SARAŠAS/JELENLÉTI IV/  
 REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŚCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTĀ DE PREZENTĀ/  
 PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Struan Stevenson (P)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Мέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputati/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplementes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/Namestniki/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter

187 (2)	
193 (3)	
49 (6) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Hμερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Point OJ/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/ Napirendi punkt/Punt fuq l-agħenda/Agendapunkt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/ Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)	

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaattlejad/Паратηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Osservatori/  
Nověrotáji/Stebetōjai/Megfigyelők/Osservaturi/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opozovalci/  
Tarkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des  
Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Me πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/  
Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq stedina tal-President/  
Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitāția președintelui/Na pozvanie  
predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Ms Laura Jocby, IRC

Ms Mory Cunningham, NCCI

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/  
Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (\*)

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Komissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/  
Kummissjoni/Comissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (\*)

Jean Barbé

Европейска служба за външна дейност/Evropská služba pro vnější činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger  
Dienst/Euroopa väliseenistus/Ευρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action service/Servicio Europeo de  
Acción Exterior/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas Ārējās darbības  
dienests/Europos išorės veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew ghall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor  
extern optreden/Europejska Służba Działalń Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Accção Externa/Serviciul european pentru acțiune  
externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnosť/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska  
avdelningen för ytter åtgärd (\*)

Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/  
Āllaa θεσμικά όργανα/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestādes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/  
Istituzzjonijiet ohra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte instituīji/Iné inštitúcie/Druge institucije/Muut  
toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ

Други участници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti/Citi klátesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partečípanți ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participantă/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Mécidé Ergen, Syriaic Universal Alliance

Wakas Al-Hayani, Embassy of Iraq

Jwan Khioka, Embassy of Iraq

Maytham Alrikabi, Embassy of Iraq

Hassan Aydinli, Iraqi Turkmen Front

Merry Fitzgerald, Europe Turkmen Friendship

Jennifer Miquel, IRC

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsionide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariáts/Frakcijų sekretoriai/Képviseleősöportok titkársága/Segretarjat gruppi političi/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Seccr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupín/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliitisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/Gruppernas sekretariat

PPE Roberto Giannella

S&D Marisol Guirao

ALDE Mirena Pencheva

ECR Daniel Dalton

Verts/ALE Jennifer Brooks

GUE/NGL

EFD

NI

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantselei/Γραφείο Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Președinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli

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Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/ Directorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Generaldirektoráts/Généralinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direktorat Generali/Directoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/ Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG INTE DG FINS DG ITEC	Marc Bentinck, Laurens Huetting, Michael Reinprecht, Djamila Chikhi, Emmanuelle Deguffroy
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Camelia Oaida	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Bonjθóć/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočník/Avustaja/Assister	
Nicole Devos	

- \* (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmiņķas/Elnök/President/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Președinte/Predseseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande  
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 Wiceprzewodniczący/Vice-Presidente/Vicepreședinte/Podpredseseda/Podpredsednik/Varapuheenjohtaja/Vice ordförande  
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 Membru/Lid/Czloniek/Membro/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot  
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