

IRAQI INTERIM GOVERNMENT



**Announcement Ceremony
Press Packet**

Iraqi Interim Government

Summary

- On 30 June, all governmental authority will be transferred to a fully sovereign Iraqi Interim Government. The Coalition Provisional Authority will cease to exist and Iraqis will govern their own affairs.
- The Iraqi Interim Government will consist of a President, two Deputy Presidents, and a Prime Minister leading a Council of Ministers. The President will act as the Head of State. The Prime Minister will preside over the Council of Ministers and oversee the administration of the government.
- There will also be an Interim National Council to promote constructive dialogue and create national consensus, to advise the new government, monitor the implementation of laws and approve the 2005 budget. The Interim National Council will be chosen by a National Conference, to be held in July, involving at least a thousand Iraqis from across Iraq. The Interim National Council will reflect Iraq's diversity.
- The judicial branch of government will be as set out in the Transitional Administrative Law (TAL). It includes a Federal Supreme Court, the highest court of the land, which has the authority to resolve constitutional disputes.
- The Iraqi Interim Government was formed through a process of wide-ranging consultation with Iraqis, including political leaders, religious and tribal leaders and civic associations. The process was facilitated by Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi, Special Adviser on Iraq to the Secretary General of the United Nations, working in consultation with the CPA and the IIG.
- The new Interim Government's primary responsibility will be to administer Iraq's affairs, in particular by providing for the welfare and security of the Iraqi people, promoting economic development and preparing Iraq for national elections to be held no later than 31 January 2005.
- On 30 June, the Transitional Administrative Law (TAL) will become the supreme law of the land. The Iraqi Interim Government will operate under the rule of law according to the TAL. The TAL provides an historic bill of rights for the Iraqi people and a roadmap to a permanent constitution in 2005.
- Iraqis have made clear their desire to choose their government through a process of democratic elections. According to the TAL, elections for a Transitional National Assembly and Government must be held no later than 31 January 2005.
- The Transitional National Assembly will draft a permanent constitution for the State of Iraq. Nationwide elections will be held under this constitution to establish a permanent Iraqi government.

Iraqi Interim Government

Key Facts

Framework for the Interim Government

- The Iraqi Interim Government will operate under the legal framework established by the Transitional Administrative Law, including the TAL Annex.
- The Iraqi Interim Government will take power on 30 June and will dissolve when the Iraqi Transitional Government is formed. The Transitional Government will be chosen through a process of democratic elections to be held no later than 31 January 2005.
- The Iraqi Interim Government will consist of a President, two Deputy Presidents and a Prime Minister leading a Council of Ministers. The new government will also include an Interim National Council composed of Iraqis who reflect Iraq's diversity, and a Judicial Authority.

The Presidency

- The President and the two Deputy Presidents will form a Presidency of the State that represents the sovereignty of Iraq and oversees the higher affairs of the country. The Presidency will have ceremonial functions and must unanimously approve orders issued by the Council of Ministers before they can become law.

The Prime Minister and Council of Ministers

- The PM will have day-to-day responsibility for the management of the government. Iraq's ministers, who will oversee the ministries, will report to the PM. The government will be responsible for improving security, promoting economic development and for the important process of preparing for democratic elections in January 2005.
- The Council of Ministers, with the unanimous approval of the Presidency, may issue orders or decrees with the force of law. The Interim National Council can veto these orders or decrees by a two-thirds majority vote.

The Supreme Commission, National Conference and Interim National Council

- The Supreme Commission will consist of approximately 60 respected Iraqi leaders, including representatives from the provinces, former members of the Governing Council and other distinguished Iraqi citizens.
- The Supreme Commission will convene a National Conference of at least 1,000 people, to engage in a genuine national dialogue on the country's challenges. The National Conference will be held during July and will bring together Iraqis representing every province in the country, political

parties, tribal leaders, trade and professional unions, universities and religious leaders, among many others.

- The National Conference will choose an Interim National Council of 100 members. The Interim National Council will help and oversee the government and will have other substantive powers specified in the TAL Annex. It will be able to hear the views of citizens, advise and question the government on policy, form committees and veto orders or decrees from the Council of Ministers by a two-thirds majority vote. It will also have the authority to appoint replacements to the Presidency in the event that a member of the Presidency dies or resigns, and it will have the right to approve the 2005 Iraqi national budget.

The Judicial Authority

- As set out in the TAL, the Judicial Authority is independent of the executive branch of government. The federal judicial branch will include a Federal Supreme Court, a Court of Cassation, Courts of Appeal, the Central Criminal Court of Iraq, and existing courts outside the Kurdistan region. In addition, there will be a Higher Juridical Council that will supervise the federal judiciary and administer its budget.

The Powers of the Interim Government

- The Interim Government that takes power on 30 June will exercise full sovereign powers for the State of Iraq. It will have the power to conclude international agreements in the areas of diplomatic relations and economic reconstruction, including Iraq's sovereign debt. However, it will not be able to amend the TAL or to form agreements which permanently alter the destiny of Iraq. The Iraqi people have made clear that only an elected government should have such powers.
- The Interim Government will operate under rules defined in the TAL, including its Annex. The TAL provides an historic bill of rights for the Iraqi people and a roadmap to a permanent constitution in 2005.

The TAL Annex

- The TAL Annex consists of legal provisions that apply specifically to the Interim Government.
- The TAL Annex describes the powers of the Interim Government. Unlike the Transitional Government, the Interim Government does not have an elected legislature. At the request of Iraqis, because the Interim Government is not elected, its powers in certain areas are limited (see above).

How the Interim Government was formed

- United Nations Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Iraq, Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi, visited Iraq in February 2004 at the invitation of the Governing Council and the Coalition Provisional Authority. His mission was to advise on the feasibility of holding elections by 30 June 2004, the deadline for the handover of sovereignty and the end of the occupation. After this fact-finding visit, a team of UN

experts accompanying Mr. Brahimi found that the minimum period in which free and fair elections could be held was eight months from the start of the electoral process.

- The Governing Council and the Coalition Provisional Authority therefore invited Mr. Brahimi to return to Iraq, to engage in wide-ranging consultations with the Iraqi people. The objective was to help build a consensus around an Interim Government which could serve from 30 June 2004 until democratic elections, to be held as soon as possible and not later than January 2005.
- Over the past months, Mr. Brahimi has engaged in intensive consultations with Iraqis from across Iraq: political leaders, religious leaders, professional and civic associations, trade unions, universities, women's groups, to name a few. Mr. Brahimi has had the opportunity to travel inside Iraq to Mosul, Irbil and Basra, and to the wider region. He met with hundreds of Iraqis from all segments of society during the course of his consultations. He found that the people of Iraq were clear in their desire that the Interim Government should consist of honest, competent people and that the Interim Government should serve only until the holding of democratic elections.
- From these consultations, appropriate candidates emerged for the posts of President, Deputy Presidents, Prime Minister and Ministers in the Interim Government. All have accepted to serve their country to the best of their abilities over the coming months, without regard to personal or partisan interests. Their most important task will be to prepare Iraq for the elections planned for January 2005, which will lead to a new democratically elected Government.

Iraq's Path to Democracy

Key Dates

- **Liberation** April 2003
- **Governing Council Established** July 2003
- **First Cabinet Formed** September 2003
- **Deadlines Announced for Sovereignty and Transitional Administrative Law** November 2003
- **Transitional Administrative Law** March 2004
- **Interim Government Announced** June 1, 2004
- **Sovereignty** June 30, 2004
(Interim Government Assumes Power)
- **National Conference Convened** July 2004
National Council Established
- **Democratic Elections** January 2005
(Transitional Government Elected)
- **Constitution Ratified** October 2005
- **Constitutionally-based Elections** December 2005
(Constitutional Government Elected)

Biographical Sketches

President of Iraq

Sheikh Ghazi Ajil Al-Yawar

- Sheikh Ghazi Al-Yawar, 45, a former Iraqi Governing Council member and president of the group during part of May, is the nephew of the leader of the Shammar tribe. He is a civil engineer who studied at the Petroleum and Minerals University in Saudi Arabia and at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Sheikh Ghazi Al-Yawar was recently the vice president of the Hicap Technology Company in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He was born in Mosul.

Deputy President of Iraq

Dr. Ibrahim Jaafari

- Dr. Jaafari was born in Karbala in 1947 and earned his medical degree from Mosul University. Dr. Jaafari joined the Dawa movement in 1966 and eventually became its chief spokesman. The group, the oldest Islamist movement in Iraq, was founded in the late 1950s and is based on the ideology of reforming Islamic thought and modernizing religious institutions. The party was banned by Saddam Hussein in 1980, forcing Dr. Jaafari to move to Iran and then to London in 1989. He is a former Iraqi Governing Council member.

Deputy President of Iraq

Dr. Rowsch Shaways

- Dr. Shaways is currently president of the Kurdistan National Assembly. He was Prime Minister of the Arbil-based Kurdistan Regional Government from 1996-99, and resigned to become President of the Iraqi Kurdistan National Assembly. Dr. Rowsch's period in office saw key legislative changes affording women and children greater human rights than had been permitted under the old Iraqi penal system. While in Germany as a student, he was head of the Kurdish Student Union and returned to Iraq in 1975 to join the Kurdish rebellion. After the withdrawal of Saddam Hussein's forces in 1991, he became Deputy Prime Minister in the joint Kurdistan Regional Government. He was born in 1947, and earned a doctorate in engineering while studying in Germany.

Prime Minister of Iraq

Dr. Ayad Allawi

- Dr. Ayad Allawi graduated from Baghdad University from the Faculty of Medicine, and he obtained a master's of science in medicine from London University in 1976 and a doctorate in medicine from the same university in 1979. Dr. Allawi is a neurologist and businessman who began his opposition to the former regime in 1971 when he moved to Beirut. He left Beirut in 1972 to begin his studies in the U.K. He has been a consultant to the United Nations Development Program, the World Health Organization, and the United Nations Children's Fund. After surviving the brutal attack and assassination attempt ordered by Saddam Hussein, Dr. Allawi continued his efforts against the regime and co-founded the Iraqi National Accord, which attempted a failed 1996 coup against Saddam. He was most recently an Iraqi Governing Council member and chaired its security committee. He was born in 1945 in Baghdad.

Deputy Prime Minister

Dr. Barham Salih

- Dr. Salih, who was most recently the Regional Administrator for Sulaimaniya, was born in 1960 in Iraqi Kurdistan. He joined the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) in 1976 and was arrested twice by the Iraqi secret police. He left Iraq in 1979, and soon became the PUK's spokesman in London. In 1991, having been elected to the PUK leadership, he departed for Washington, D.C., and served for 10-years as the PUK and Kurdistan Regional Government representative to the United States. Dr. Salih earned a bachelor's degree in civil and structural engineering from the University of Cardiff and earned a doctoral in statistics and computer modeling from the University of Liverpool.

Minister of Agriculture

Dr. Sawsan Ali Magid Al-Sharifi

- Dr. Al-Sharifi, the former Deputy Minister of Agriculture, was charged with programming and planning for reconstruction of the sector, and for ensuring the continuation of high quality research at the Ministry's numerous state boards and national production programs. She also has been the point-of-contact for USAID, CPA and World Bank reconstruction and development efforts in agriculture. Dr. Al-Sharifi earned her bachelor's degree in animal production from Baghdad University and her master's and doctoral degrees in animal breeding from Iowa State University. After returning to Iraq in 1984, Dr. Al-Sharifi held the position of Scientific Researcher at the prestigious Scientific Research Council. She is the author of more than 40 scientific research papers published in Iraqi and international journals, and she continues to supervise the research efforts of doctorate and master's degree students in Iraq. In addition to her main professional responsibilities, Dr. Al-Sharifi is also the editor of the Iraqi Journal of Agriculture. She was born in 1956 in Baghdad.

Minister of Communications

Dr. Mohammad Ali Al-Hakim

- Dr. Al-Hakim was most recently the Deputy Secretary General of the Iraqi Governing Council and Ambassador at the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He earned his bachelor's degree in statistics from Al-Mustansiriyyah University in Baghdad, his master's degree in computer science from Birmingham University, U.K., and a doctorate in information management from the University of Southern California. He was a global director for Nortel Networks and Cambridge Technology, and also co-founded a U.S.-based technology company called Infoclarus. Dr. Al-Hakim has been part of several delegations representing Iraq to the international and global financial community. He was born in 1952 in Najaf.

Minister of Culture

Mr. Mufeed Mohammed Jawad al-Jaza'iri

- Mr. al-Jaza'iri obtained a master's degree in journalism in 1966 while studying in Prague. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Mr. Al-Jaza'iri worked as a journalist and correspondent for Al-Bilad, Arba'atash Tammouz and Tareeq ash-Sha'ab and as an editor and broadcaster for the Arabic section of Czechoslovak Radio. From 1982-1988, he traveled to Kurdish northern Iraq to

join the underground opposition to Saddam Hussein. He is a member of the Iraqi Democratic Journalists, Writers & Artists Association. He was born in Al-Madhatiyah in 1939.

Minister of Defense

Mr. Hazem Sha'alan

- Mr. Sha'alan is Sheik of the Ghazal Tribe. He earned his degree in economics and management from Baghdad University in 1972 and began his career managing the Kut Dewanyah branches of the Iraqi Real Estate Bank. He served as Inspector General of the main branch in Baghdad from 1983-1985. He was forced to leave Iraqi in 1985 because of his opposition to the former regime and managed a successful real estate firm in the U.K. He has been governor of Diwaniyah since April 2003. He was born in 1947 in Diwanyah.

Minister of Displacement and Migration

Ms. Pascale Isho Warda

- Ms. Warda is president of the Assyrian Women's Union in Baghdad. She co-founded the Iraqi Society for Human Rights and served as the representative of the Assyrian Democratic Movement Foundation (ADM) in Paris. This was the highest position of any woman in the ADM, which is the primary Assyrian political party in Iraq. Additionally, Ms. Warda is the external affairs manager for the Assyrian Aid Society. She holds a degree from the Human Rights Institute at the University of Lyon in France. She was born in Duhok in 1961.

Minister of Education

Professor Sami Al-Mudhaffar

- Professor Al-Mudhaffar is the one of the most senior biochemists in Iraq and has played an important role in promoting biochemistry and related subjects such as molecular biotechnology research. He received his bachelor's degree in science with honors from Baghdad University in 1960, and then obtained his doctorate from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Professor Al-Mudhaffar began his career in 1967 with a teaching and research lecturing position at the University of Basra in the College of Science. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1971, and in 1979 he was promoted a position as professor of biochemistry at Baghdad University. From 1968-2000, Dr. Al-Mudhaffar was a lecturer at the University of Basra and Baghdad Univeristy in the College of Science. He has published more than 250 scientific papers, and he is a member of the editorial board of the Iraqi Journal of Chemistry and the Irari National Journal of Chemistry. He has received numerous fellowships, and is a member of many Iraqi and international societies and associations. Professor Al-Mudhaffar has over 33-years of teaching experience in different branches of biochemistry to undergraduate and postgraduate students. He was born in 1940 in Basra.

Minister of Electricity

Dr. Aiham Al-Sammarae

- Dr. Al-Sammarae earned his undergraduate electrical engineering degree from Baghdad University and completed his doctoral studies at Chicago ITT University. He worked for three decades for KCI, an electrical contractor, and eventually rose to become its executive director. His experience includes power plant design and power generation. He presided over the Scientific Conference for Nuclear Energy in the United States for five years and published more

than 30 technical papers. During the past 12-years, Dr. Al-Samarrae participated in most of the opposition's national conferences as an executive member of the Iraqi Middle Democratic Trend.

Minister of Environment

Professor Mishkat Moumin

- Professor Moumin teaches law at Baghdad University and specializes in human rights courses. She is currently Assistant Director of the Iraq Foundation and is very active with the Advisory Council on Women's Affairs, which is the political branch of the Higher Council on Women.

Minister of Finance

Dr. Adel Abdul Mahdi

- Dr. Mahdi is an economist and member of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq. Born in Baghdad in 1942, he has graduate degrees in Politics and Economics from French Universities. He worked in a number of French think tanks, most recently as Head of the French Institute for Islamic Studies. He has also edited a number of magazines, in both Arabic and French and is the author of numerous publications. He was active in political life from an early age, being imprisoned, tortured and sentenced to death more than once in the 1960s. He was stripped of his job and passport in 1969 which forced him into exile in France. He lived in Iran for a time and joined the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, later serving as the official SCIRI representative in Kurdistan from 1992-1996. He served as the Deputy for Abdul Aziz al Hakim on the Iraqi Governing Council.

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Hoshiyar Mahmood Mohammed Zebari

- Mr. Zebari earned a political science degree in 1976 from Jordan University in Amman and completed his master's degree in the sociology of development in 1979 from Essex University in the United Kingdom. He became a member of the Central Committee and Political Bureau of the Kurdistan Democratic Party in 1979, and served as a representative of the KDP in Europe before managing its International Relations Office from 1988-2003. Mr. Zebari was elected to the executive council of the Iraqi National Conference in 1992 and was elected to its Presidential Council in 1999. He was born in Aqrah in 1953.

Minister of Health

Dr. Ala'adin Alwan

- Dr. Alwan holds a medical degree from the Alexandria Medical College in Egypt and postgraduate degrees from universities in the United Kingdom. He served as dean and professor at the Medical College at al-Mustansiriya University, Baghdad. Dr. Alwan was the World Health Organization's representative and head of mission in Jordan and Oman, and served as head of the department of chronic and non-contagious diseases at the World Health Organization's offices in Geneva. He has held several positions in the Iraqi Ministry of Health and the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education, and although his background is in medicine, Dr. Alwan also spent a major part of his career in the academic and teaching profession. He was born in 1949 in Baghdad.

Minister of Higher Education

Dr. Taher Khalaf Jabur Al-Bakaa

- Dr. Al-Bakaa was most recently president of Al Mustansiriya University, where he has been a professor for more than a decade. Before rising to its presidency in 2003, Dr. Al-Bakaa's academic posts at Al-Mustansiriya include being the chair of the Department of History in 1994, chairman of the Academic Promotion Committee since 1996, and editor of the college press. He holds memberships in the Federation of Arab Historians, the Iraqi Historians and Archaeologists Association, and the Federation of Iraqi Writers and Men of Letters. Dr. Al-Bakaa earned his bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees in history from Baghdad University. He has authored books on regional history and has been published in several journals and magazines. He was born in 1950 in Dhi Qar.

Minister of Housing and Construction

Dr. Omar Al-Farouq Salim Al-Damluji

- Dr. Al-Damluji earned his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in engineering from Baghdad University, where he eventually became a civil engineering professor. He also taught at the University of Technology's Civil Engineering Department and supervised about 30 graduate and doctoral students studying civil engineering in the Universities of Baghdad, Technology, Nahrain and Kufa. He also wrote two books in soil mechanics and was a visiting professor to Hanover University and City University in London. Since 2000, Dr. Al-Damluji has served as the head of the Civil Engineering Department at Baghdad University. He is a registered engineer in the Iraqi Engineers society, American Engineers society and a member of UNESCO/Iraqi higher Education Committee.

Minister for Human Rights

Dr. Bakhtiar Amin

- Dr. Amin earned a master's degree in international affairs and a doctorate in political geography from the Sorbonne in Paris. During that time, he also studied the media in Sweden and eventually returned to become country's Councilor in Immigration, Immigrants and Refugees in the 1980s. He was also Secretary General for the Kurdish Institute in Paris, councilor to Mrs. Daniel Meteran for the France Organization of Liberties, Director of the Human Rights Coalition in Washington, D.C., and the Executive Director of Coalition for Justice in Paris and Washington. He has participated in many national and international conferences, including the Human Rights Conference in Vienna and the Durban conference in South Africa. He has also organized educational courses for Iraqi correspondents, lawyers, academics, political activists and minority's rights in Paris, Geneva and London, and he has given testimony about situations in Iraq to the U.S. Congress, European Parliament and the Arabic Cooperation Organization. He has also been published widely on the issue of human rights. He is a native of Kirkuk.

Minister of Industry & Minerals

Dr. Hajem Al-Hassani

- Dr. Al-Hassani was born in Kirkuk in 1954 and graduated from Mosul University. In 1979 he moved to the U.S. to study international trade at the University of Nebraska and earned a doctorate in industrial organization from the University of Connecticut. He has lectured at a number of American universities, managed an Internet company and worked most recently as head of the American Investment and Trading Company in Los Angeles. He has been a member of the board of a number of NGOs. Dr. Al-Hassani worked in the Iraqi Opposition for a number of years and became a member of the Politburo and then official spokesman of the Iraqi Islamic

Party. He was elected to the follow up committee of the London Conference and has served as a Deputy Member of the Iraqi Governing Council and the Deputy Chair of its Finance Committee.

Minister of Interior

Mr. Falah al-Nakib

- Mr. al-Nakib is a former opposition leader with the Iraqi National Movement. He is from a prominent military family in Samarra; his father was a military chief of staff in the 1960s. Mr. al-Nakib, 48, is a U.S.-trained civil engineer and was most recently the Governor of Salah ad-Din.

Minister of Justice

Dr. Malik Dohan Al-Hassan

- Dr. Al-Hassan is a practicing lawyer and recently appointed Chairman of the Special Task Force on Compensation for Victims of the Previous Regime. In 2003, he was elected President of the Iraqi Bar Association. Dr. Al-Hassan, one of Iraq's foremost authorities on tort law, began his career as an investigating judge and then served as a law professor at the University of Baghdad. He was elected twice to the Iraqi Parliament during the Monarchy and was appointed Minister of Culture and Information in 1967. Dr. Al-Hassan received his diploma in Public and Private Law and his doctorate in Law while studying in France. He was born in Al-Hilla in 1920.

Minister of Labor & Social Affairs

Ms. Leyla Abdul Latif

- Biographical information will be forthcoming.

Minister of Public Works

Ms. Nasreen Mustapha Berwari

- Ms. Berwari graduated in 1991 from Baghdad University with a degree in architectural engineering and urban planning. She also studied public policy and management at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, where she completed her master's degree in 1999. She also headed the UN Office in Kurdistan region of Iraq as Head of UN Field Office for Human Settlement in Dohuk from 1997-1998, and participating in the reconstruction of 4,000 villages destroyed under Saddam Hussein's regime. Ms. Berwari became the Minister of Reconstruction and Development for the Kurdistan Region in 1999. She was born in 1967 in Baghdad.

Minister of Oil

Mr. Thamir Abbas Ghadban

- Mr. Ghadban has worked for the Iraqi Ministry of Oil since 1973, and was detained and demoted from his position within the ministry for supporting democratic reforms. He earned his bachelor's degree in geology from University College in London and his master's degree in petroleum reservoir engineering from Imperial College at the London University. During his long career with the oil ministry, Mr. Ghadban was a reservoir engineer, head of petroleum and reservoir engineering, director general of studies and planning, a chief geologist, and chief executive officer. Mr. Ghadban has authored and co-authored more than 50 studies and technical reports dealing with various aspects of Iraqi oil fields. He was born in 1945 in Babil.

Minister of Planning

Dr. Mehdi Al-Hafidh

- Dr. Al-Hafidh represented Iraq as minister plenipotentiary at the UN in Geneva from 1978-1980. He later joined the UN system in Trade and Development where he was Director for Special Industrial Development from 1983-1996, and then served as regional director for Industrial Development until 1999. Dr. Al-Hafidh has been a member of the Council of Trustees & Consultants at the Arab Ideology Institute since 1996, and was head the Arab Association for Economic Research in Cairo from 1998-2000. He was also a founding member of the Arab Organization for Human Rights, and worked as vice president of Al-Tasami Afro Asian Organization since 1980. After completing his undergraduate studies in chemistry, he earned his doctorate in economic science from the University of Prague.

Minister of Science & Technology

Dr. Rashad Mandan Omar

- Dr. Omar obtained his doctorate in civil engineering from the University of London in 1977 and was the Director of the Committee for Oil Construction at the Ministry of Oil until 1999. Dr. Omar then worked in Dubai as a construction manager both in the private and state sector until his appointment as Minister of Science and Technology last September.

Minister of State for Provinces

Judge Wa'il Abdul al-Latif

- Judge al-Latif was born in Basra in 1950, and graduated with a degree in Law from Baghdad University in 1973 and with a Diploma from the Judicial Institute in 1982. He served as a Judge in Basra, Samawah and as Deputy Head of the Appeals Court in Nasseriya before being imprisoned and prevented from traveling and working under the previous regime. Judge al-Latif published a number of legal articles, especially on family law. He was elected by the Basra Provincial Council to be the Governor of Basra.

Minister of State for Women

Ms. Narmin Othman

- Ms. Othman is the former Minister of Education for Sulaimaniya, former advisor to the Ministry of Justice, and a former Minister of Social Affairs in the Kurdistan region of Iraq. She was a member of the Conference Advisory Steering Committee for the Voice of the Women of Iraq Conference on July 9, 2003. Prior to joining government service, she was an educator for eight years and a member of the Peshmerga. Ms. Othman also became the manager of the Save the Children office in Arbil and also served as manager of the Youth Activity Center in Sulaimaniya.

Minister of State

Dr. Kasim Daoud

- Dr. Daoud, a native of Nasiriyah, graduated from Baghdad University's Faculty of Science with a bachelor's degree in 1971. He obtained his master's of science from Lawdiff in 1978, and a doctorate in microbiology and environment from the University of Wales in 1982. He worked as a scientist in the United Arab Emirates for a number of years and was the General-Secretary for the Iraqi Democratic Movement. Dr. Daoud was born in Hilla on April 13, 1949. He is married and has two daughters and one son.

Minister of State

Dr. Mamu Farham Othman

- Dr. Othman holds doctorates in English and German Philosophy. He was born in 1951. He is a scholar and linguist.

Minister of State

Mr. Adnan al-Janabi

- Mr. al-Janabi is a London-trained economist who heads the 750,000-member Janabi tribe. He earned his bachelor's degree in economics with honors from the University of London and his master's degree in petroleum technology from Loughborough University in the United Kingdom. Mr. al-Janabi was head of marketing for the Iraqi oil industry in the 1970s and was responsible for economics and finance at OPEC headquarters in Vienna for several years. He was head of foreign relations for the Iraqi Oil Ministry in the early 1980s and was also elected to the National Assembly in 1996, where he served as vice-chair of its oil committee.

Minister of Trade

Mr. Mohammed Mostafa al-Jibouri

- Mr. al-Jibouri was born in Mosul in 1949 and graduated from Mosul University in 1974 with a degree in Economics. He received a post-graduate degree in Economics from Glasgow University in 1983, and then returned to Iraq to work for the State Oil Marketing Organization (SOMO). He was elected Director General of SOMO in May 2003.

Minister of Transportation

Mr. Louay Hatem Sultan Al Erris

- Mr. Al Erris was vice chairman of the Baghdad Provincial Council, Governor-Elect of Baghdad Province, an aircraft engineer for Boeing, and is now a Director General for Iraqi Airways. He has been a leading proponent of women's rights during his service on the local councils, and is particularly active on the City Council's Women and Children Committee. He acted as a spokesperson during the inaugural session of the City Council. Mr. Al Erris, 52, was elected to the Provincial Council in January 2004, and was subsequently chosen by his fellow council members to be vice-chairman.

Minister of Water Resources

Dr. Abdul Latif Jamal Rashid

- Dr. Rashid graduated with a degree in civil engineering from Liverpool University, U.K., in 1968 and completed his doctorate in engineering at Manchester University in 1976. He is a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers and a member of the International Commission for Irrigation & Drainage. Dr. Rashid has worked in the fields of irrigation and drainage, water control engineering, and agricultural development and management. He has provided services and consultancy for projects in Saudi Arabia, Somalia, South Yemen, and Egypt. Dr. Rashid has also been an official spokesman and representative for the Kurdistan Front Union in the United Kingdom since 1978. He was born in Sulaimaniya in 1944.

Minister of Youth and Sports

Mr. Ali Fa'iq Al-Ghabban

- Mr. Al-Ghabban was born in Baghdad in 1955. He received his Bachelor Degree in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Baghdad in 1977. He was an active member in the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq and was forced to leave Iraq in 1980. Mr. Al-Ghabban has participated in several youth and sports activities outside Iraq, especially in Iran where he worked to help Iraqi refugees. He has served as a supervisor for many clubs and refugee youth centers.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between the Interim Government and the Transitional Government described in the Transitional Administrative Law (TAL)?

- The Iraqi Interim Government takes power on 30 June. It will serve for only seven months, until a new Transitional Government is chosen through democratic elections to be held as soon as possible and no later than 31 January 2005.
- The Iraqi Interim Government was chosen by Iraqis through a consultation process led by the United Nations.

Why convene a National Conference?

- As Mr. Brahimi stated in his report to the UN Secretary General on 27 April, many Iraqis suggested to him that a National Conference, consisting of at least 1000 people, should be convened to engage in a genuine national dialogue on the country's challenges. The National Conference will bring together Iraqis "representing every province in the country, all political parties, tribal chiefs and leaders, trade and professional unions, universities, women's groups, youth organizations, writers, poets and artists, as well as religious leaders, among many others."
- The National Conference will be convened by a Supreme Commission for the Preparation of the National Conference of around 60 people. This Commission will work towards identifying who should be in the Conference, when and where it should be convened and how it should be managed. Members of the Governing Council who do not have roles in the Interim Government will be eligible to serve on the Commission. In order to do its job properly, the Commission will need around 1-2 months to consult widely around the country, meaning that the National Conference would convene in July.
- The National Conference will choose Iraqis to serve on the Interim National Council that will advise and oversee the Interim Government.

What administrative structures have been put in place to support the new Government? What support will the Coalition offer?

- The new Government will have its offices in the building formerly used by the Governing Council. Funds have already been set aside in the Iraqi Government Budget to cover running costs, security, etc. Government Ministries will remain in their current buildings. Coalition countries and other donors stand ready to provide technical assistance to the new Government, but will provide this only if it is requested.

When does the new Government take power?

- The Interim Government takes power on 30 June. During the month of June, it will engage in outreach with Iraqis across the country, setting an agenda for when it takes office and assumes full executive responsibility for Iraq's affairs.
- Fourteen Ministries have already transitioned to full Iraqi control.

How does the TAL govern the Iraqi Interim Government?

- The TAL is the legal framework for the IIG. Detailed provisions covering the IIG are set out in the TAL Annex.

Is this Interim Government really representative?

- The Interim Government has been formed by a wide-ranging process of consultation with a broad spectrum of Iraqi opinion. It will represent a wide range of Iraqi views. The Interim National Council also broadens representation in the interim period until elections are held.
- As Mr. Brahimi has said, until the democratic elections scheduled to take place by January 2005 are held, "any Iraqi governing body that exists will be less than fully representative by definition". But the majority of Iraqis with whom Mr. Brahimi spoke said that they favored the establishment of an Interim Government to which power could be transferred on 30 June and which would serve until elections are held. The new Interim Government will therefore hold office only until democratic elections are held, as soon as possible and by January 2005 at the latest.

What was the CPA's role in the government's formation?

- The process of creating a consensus was conducted by Iraqis and in partnership with the United Nations and the CPA.

Will the President, Deputy Presidents, and Prime Minister be able to run for office in the January 2005 elections?

- Yes.

What happens on 30 June and will the Interim Government have full sovereignty?

- On 30 June the Iraqi Interim Government will exercise full sovereign power for the State of Iraq. The CPA will dissolve and the occupation will end, although multi-national forces will remain to help maintain security.

Who will control the Iraqi Armed Forces, Police and ICDC?

- The Iraqi Interim Government.

Will the Iraqi Interim Government have full control over Iraq's oil revenues and natural resources?

- Yes.

What will be the relationship between the Iraqi Interim Government (IIG) and the Multi-National Force Iraq (MNF-I)?

- The relationship will be one of partnership. The detailed arrangements will be a matter for discussion between the IIG and troop-contributing nations.

What will be the relationship between the IIG and the US/UK Embassies?

- After the handover, the US and UK will have normal bilateral relations with a sovereign Iraqi government. The relationship will be one of partnership: multi-national forces helping to provide security, Embassies facilitating technical assistance and donor funds, and Iraqis taking their own decisions.

What happens to the CPA after 30 June?

- The CPA ceases to exist on 30 June. Ambassador Bremer will return to the US. Shortly afterwards, new US and British Ambassadors will take up their posts as representatives of their country to the new Government of Iraq.

What will happen to the Republican Palace after 30 June?

- In the short-term, the Republican Palace will provide office space for the overflow from the US Embassy.