



(عاجل جداً وعلى الفور)

ELC/4/206

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of the Member States to the United Nations, and has the honor to attach herewith the Voluntary Pledges and Commitments of the Government of the Republic of Iraq to its candidature for re-election to the Human Rights Council (HRC) for the term 2020-2022.

In this regard, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations would be most grateful if the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations could transmit the attached document and the request of support to their esteemed Governments for the candidature of the Government of the Republic of Iraq to the Human Rights Council for the above-mentioned term, at the elections to be held in the General Assembly during the Month of October 2019.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions of Member States the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, April 23rd, 2019

Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations
New York

المرفقات:
- ورقة الالتزامات الطوعية (الترجمة الإنكليزية).


المنسوب الدائم
السفير
محمد حسين بحر العلوم
2019/4/ ٢٣



نسخة منه الى/

- مكتب السيد وكيل الوزارة للشؤون القانونية والعلاقات متعددة الأطراف، يرجى التفضل بالاطلاع ... مع التقدير.
- دائرة حقوق الانسان/ إشارة الى كتابكم المرقم 697 في 2019/4/9، يرجى التفضل بالاطلاع وقد ترونه مناسباً ارسال ورقة الالتزامات الطوعية المرفقة طياً الى سفارات الدول التي لديها تمثيل مقيم في بغداد او سفارتنا في عواصم تلك الدول، وبالمسرة الممكنة، لغرض طلب دعمها للترشيح أعلاه، كما تقترح الممثلة ضرورة قيام ممثليتنا الدائمة في جنيف بالتحرك على الممثلات الدائمة للدول الأعضاء في الأمم المتحدة في ساحة عملها كجزء من حملة الترشيح ... مع التقدير.
- دائرة المنظمات والمؤتمرات الدولية، يرجى التفضل بالاطلاع ... مع التقدير.
- الممثلة الدائمة لجمهورية العراق لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة/ جنيف، للتفضل بالاطلاع ... مع التقدير.





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Candidature of the Government of the Republic of Iraq to the Human Rights Council for the term 2020-2022

Voluntary Pledges and Commitments

The Government of the Republic of Iraq is seeking to maintain an active role with other Human Rights Council members, based on full cooperation and effective dialogue, to promote and protect the universal rights, also consolidate the respect for human rights and individual freedoms around the world. In this regard, the Iraqi Government has the great honor to submit the voluntary pledges and commitments to its candidature for re-election to the Human Rights Council in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 60/251 (2006).

International Pledges and Commitments:

- ❖ Iraq reiterates its full support for the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism as one of the most important mechanisms and essential means of the Human Rights Council to promote, protect and improve human rights situation impartially and professionally around the world.
- ❖ Iraq strives to ensure harmony among cultures, religions and civilizations through respect, tolerance and solidarity to eliminate hate speech and disrespect to any kind of cultural differences.
- ❖ Iraq emphasizes the role of Civil Society Organizations and other stakeholders as main partners towards developing the work of the Human Rights Council and permit those partners to address the Council on human rights issues.



- ❖ Iraq supports the concrete efforts towards achieving justice and equality in human rights through the protection of human dignity and values from all forms of discrimination, violence and persecution, as stipulated in the Iraqi Constitution (2005), and in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).
- ❖ Iraq promotes the international initiatives that seek to end all forms of discrimination and restrictions on the rights of persons with disabilities, women, the elderly and the poor in order to safeguard their rights and create an equal basis for them in all aspects.
- ❖ Iraq is committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals through building the resilience of the poor and strengthening disaster risk reduction, also promoting welfare and better life opportunities for youth, persons with disabilities, women and children. In addition to improving the quality of education and providing free healthcare and decent housing for all individuals.
- ❖ Iraq reiterates the belief in the principles of open and transparent consultations and full cooperation among Member States of the United Nations to further enhance the promotion and protection of human rights, with full respect for cultural, religious and ethnic diversity.
- ❖ Iraq will continue to constructively work in cooperation with all Members of the Human Rights Council to provide the necessary assistance to the member states fulfilling their obligations under the international humanitarian law, international treaties and conventions of human rights.
- ❖ Iraq reiterates its belief in the universality of Human Rights and the unwavering commitment to its principles, in terms of upholding the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights, in accordance with the mandate of the Human Rights Council.





- ❖ Iraq will exert further concrete efforts to support the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to fulfill her/his mandate, also will keep coordinating with the OHCHR in a positive and efficient manner.
- ❖ Iraq encourages initiatives by the Human Rights Council for exchanging experiences, technical cooperation and capacity-building programs to overcome the challenges and obstacles faced by Member States.

National Pledges and Commitments:

- ❖ Iraq will continue its highest support to the National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI) that guarantee the promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, Iraq established the High Commission for Human Rights under Article 102 of the Iraqi Constitution and High Commission for Human Rights Law No. 53 (2008) which are in compliance with the Paris Principles, to be the first Iraqi National Foundation monitoring the work of the Governmental institutions, in addition to having a broad mandate including human rights investigations, acceptance of individual complaints, and monitoring Iraq's international commitment to foster and enforce human rights principles.
- ❖ Despite the difficult circumstances through its war on terrorism, Iraq didn't declare a state of emergency, to ensure the continuation of the work of legislative, executive and judicial institutions and keep their constitutionally guaranteed authorities, to protect the individuals and collective rights in all its aspects.
- ❖ Iraq works on Women Empowerment and gender-equality through the launch of the National Report of Action Plan (2014-2018), in accordance with UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security. Hence Iraq became the first country in





the Middle East and North Africa to develop a national plan in line with the above-mentioned Resolution.

- ❖ Iraq implements its international obligations through presenting the periodic and binding reports to the Human Rights Council, where Iraq submitted its national report to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in 2014 and now is preparing to present the second report in 2019.
- ❖ Iraq believes in transparency and adherence to international human rights standards and principles. It has accordingly extended an open invitation to all special rapporteurs and holders of special mandates to visit Iraq and to monitor closely the implementation of its obligations to promote and protect human rights, despite of the difficulties and extraordinary circumstances Iraq faced during and after the war on terrorism.
- ❖ Democracy and the peaceful transition of power are the founding principles of the new Iraqi political system through the full adherence to the constitutional time-tables of the parliamentary elections in 2005, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018.
- ❖ Iraq is proud of its ethnic and religious diversity and continues to protect this diversity from any kind of violation and heinous crime committed by ISIS, Al Qaeda and other terrorist groups.
- ❖ Iraq signed the Joint Communique with the Special Representative of Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflicts and launched the Joint Communique Action Plan in February 2018.
- ❖ The Government of Iraq facilitates all administrative procedures of registration for the existing Civil Society Organizations, which are (3200) organization, that considered an influential and supportive partner for the Government as well as monitoring its work.





- ❖ The Government of Iraq considers children as the future of each society and a main cornerstone for achieving sustainable development. Therefore, it has initiated many national policies, including the establishment of the Child Welfare Commission (CWC) in 1979 for a better well-being and the superior interest of the child, working closely with the United Nations bodies and especially the UNICEF to implement the Country Program Action Plan 2016-2019 which strengthens basic social service systems to reach the most vulnerable children affected by conflict and displacement. Iraq also ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol, and it also submits the national report in this regard.
- ❖ Iraq works with international organizations to develop long-term, multisectoral and inclusive National Strategy for Youth, thus enhancing national affiliation of youth and consolidating their rights. In addition, the Iraqi Government has conducted the 2018-2022 Plan to support youth in terms of improving their life standards, protecting them from exploitation, and reducing the rates of unemployment.

