

The president and members of the Iraqi Council of Representatives

During the last six months, the public opinion, including us (oil experts and men of law and economics) were occupied with the procedures and events that accompanied the oil and gas law; many symposiums were held, the most prominent of which may be the symposium that was held by the oil experts in Amman on 17/2/2007 which produced a number of comments and recommendations that was presented at the time to your council.

As everybody knows, the draft of the law took it's path to the State Shoura Council, which gratefully, and in a professional way, redrafted it linguistically as well as suggesting some important notes to improve the efficiency of performance, implementation and to ensure the interest of all the Iraqi people, but it did not tackle some other important aspects .

The Council of Ministers approved on 3/7/2007 the draft of the law and referred it to your Council for the purpose of discussing and enacting. Although the final draft was not published, but it was noted from the available information, as well as from the pronouncements of officials of the central government and the Kurdistan Regional Government, that there are still differences concerning the four annexes, that were included in the law, that contains the classification of the producing fields and the discovered but not yet developed fields that are situated near the production centres, to be under the auspices of the national oil company that is to be created under the law ---- these differences resulted in the recommendation that these annexes to be deferred later to the federal council of oil and gas to consider; a matter which, in our opinion, does not remedy this important issue.

It is worth noting that the Council of Ministers has lately referred to you the draft of the law of distribution of the financial resources, through which an important part of the claims of the Kurdistan region can be handled; hence, at the present time, concentration may be given to the discussing of this financial law and in isolation of the oil and gas law.

President and members of the council

After seeing the draft of the oil and gas law, that was referred to you , we noticed that it does not differ in it's essence from the first draft except the noticeable improvement in the linguists composition. The present draft has ignored the comments presented by the State Shoura Council as well as all other comments such as our comments that we formulated in the Amman symposium, the symposiums held by the oil trade unions and the non governmental organisations, in addition to many political blocks.

Emanating from our feelings of the extreme importance of the oil and gas law to the present and future of our dear country, we again turn towards you to expend your utmost efforts towards enriching the law with studying and checking and to remove and remedy the sources of faults in it, seeking the help of expert Iraqis of opinions and expertise.

According to the above, we would like to emphasize to your Council the following observations :-

1 – with our conviction for the need of a law to organise the upstream sector and its development, and due to its extreme importance, we emphasize the importance of acting steadily and not rushing its issuance before enriching it with more discussions and carry out amendments that ensure the interest of all the Iraqi people, and not to ignore the sector of the processing industries (refining, distribution and gas processing), with the priority given for the enacting of the Iraq National Oil Company law.

2 – there are ongoing discussions aiming to amend the Iraqi Constitution, including the items related to oil and gas; hence we do not see, from the legal and technical point of view, the necessity to enact the law presented to you now before the constitutional amendments are finalized .

3 – licensing contracts of exploration, development and production, form the backbone of this law, hence it is vital to emphasise the role of the council of representatives in the approval of such contracts; similar to what is adopted in the rest of the world. It is regrettable to notice that the authority of the council is restricted to the enacting of the law and the approval of international agreements only .

4 – as for the four annexes attached to the law, they are of vital importance as well, so we emphasise on the council of representatives, the necessity to discuss them as part and parcel of the proposed law. We emphasize also upon the role of the Iraqi national oil company for the necessity for it to undertake the responsibility of managing all the producing and discovered fields in a form that will safeguard the rights of the Iraqi people completely and not to foresake any of the oil reserves in any contractual format to foreign entities.

5 – we assert the importance and necessity to adopt a comprehensive central plan for the whole of Iraq to determine the priorities of explorations and development efforts according to economic and technical basis prevalent in the oil industry; recognising the importance of the participation of the regions and the governorates in the operations of planning, implementation and management within a comprehensive vision that ensures the maximum benefits for the whole people of Iraq.

6 – the passing of this law without paying attention to the expected impacts of competitions between the regions and the governorates, and what that will entail of conflicts, will definitely lead to the enforcement of the situation of divisions, anarchy and chaos; the best example of this, the latest unilateral declaration by the Kurdistan Regional Government offering (40) exploration blocks for foreign investment, without even

waiting for the enacting of the federal law and without the existence of a comprehensive and approved central plan for the whole of Iraq, including the Kurdistan region.

Lastly, we call upon the president and the members of the council to take a memorable historical stand that will be remembered and registered for them in protecting the interests of the whole Iraqi people and in defending the rights of it's sons in their present and future times.

LIST OF SIGNATORIES ON THE LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE IRAQI COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES , DATED 16TH JULY 2007

NO.	NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY
1 --	Dr. Ibrahim Abdul Al-Kareem Rashid	Former Director General (D.G.)	Ministry of Oil (MOO)
2 --	Dr Ihsan Ali Al-Sharqi	Oil expert	MOO
3 --	Ahmed Basheer Al-Naeb	Former President of the University of Technology / Energy Consultant	
4 --	Ahmed Al-Siddiqi	Oil expert	MOO
5 --	Usama Al-Chalabi	Former deputy governor of the central bank	
6 --	Ms. Asma Said Jumah	Former chief Engineer	MOO
7 --	Dr Ekram Alhaq Bakir	Legal consultant	
8 --	Ms. Amal Al-Zibari	Former chief engineer	MOO
9 --	Dr Basil Al-Bustani	Financial consultant	
10 -	Dr Churchill Al-Temimi	Former assistant D.G	MOO
11 -	Dr Thamir Al-Ugaily	Former D.G	MOO
12 -	Jasim Mohd. Rasheed	Oil expert	MOO
13 -	Hazim Sultan	Oil expert	MOO
14 -	Husam Kashmoola	Former D.G	MOO

15 -	Hassan Jawad Al-Hili	Former manager of logging operation company	MOO
16 -	Hassan Ali Al-Naji	Former D.G.	MOO
17 -	Dr. Khalid Al-Shamary	Economic expert	
18 -	Rajih Mohydeen Yousif	Former organization president	MOO
19 -	Dr Rasheed Al-Rifae	Former minister of oil	
20 -	Raad Hassan Al-Azawi	Former asst. D.G.	MOO
21 -	Dr Riadh Al-Dibagh	Former University president	
22 -	Riadh Abed Ghassab	Former D.G.	MOO
23 -	Saad Salih Al-Zubaidi	Former D.G.	Ministry of Finance
24 -	Saad Khaleel Tallal	Former manager in Iraq Tankers Company	MOO
25 -	Saadalla Al-Fathi	Former organization president	MOO
26 -	Dr Saadoon Al-Saqi	University professor /economic expert	
27 -	Saadi Abdul Jabbar Al-Bayati	Former director	MOO
28 -	Ms. Salma Hassan Mustafa	Former engineer	MOO
29 -	Sameer Kubba	Oil expert	MOO
30 -	Saleem Al-Dahan	Former chief geologist	MOO
31 -	Shareef Mohsen Ali	Former D.G.	MOO
32 -	Saeb Bahjat	Former chief engineer	MOO
33 -	Sabah Yaseen Awni	Financial consultant	Ministry of Finance
34 -	Dr Sabah Al-Mukhtar	Former legal Advisor	MOO
35 -	Sabah Jadoo	Oil expert	MOO
36 -	Subhi Abdul Al-Majeed Al-AlAni	Oil expert	MOO
37 -	Dr. Sabeeh Saleem Thabit	Former chief engineer	MOO
38 -	Sabah Jumah	Former D.G.	MOO
39 -	Dhia Al-Bakaa	Former D.G.	MOO
40 -	Dr. Tariq Al-Rehaym	Oil expert	MOO
41 -	Tarik Abdul Razzak Al-Ani	Former organisation	MOO

		president	
42 -	Tarik Nasseeb Al-Omari	Former D.G.	MOO
43 -	Dr. Taher Al-Bayati	Economic expert / University proffessor	
44 -	Dr. Abdul Al-Ameer Al-Anbari	Legal advisor /former ambassodor	
45 -	Abdulla Younis Al-Khairy	Former D.G. /Oil expert	
46 -	Abdul Majeed Al-Shraida	Oil expert	MOO
47 -	Abed Yousif Paulus	Former chief geologist	MOO
48 -	Othman Abdul Baqi Al-Rawi	Former organization president	MOO
49 -	Urfan Zeki Amin	Former D.G.	MOO
50 -	Dr. Issam Abdul Wahah Al- Dabagh	university professor	
51 -	Issam Abdul Al-Raheem Al- Chalabi	Former Minister of oil	
52 -	Dr. Ali Abdul Wahab Al- Dabagh	Manager of oil service company /university professor	
53 -	Azzam Bakir	Former D.G.	MOO
54 -	Ali Rejab	Former Asst. D.G.	MOO
55 -	Ali Ijam	Former D.G.	MOO
56 -	Ali Hammeed Salih	Former D.G.	MOO
57 -	Ghazi Sabir Ali	Former D.G.	MOO
58 -	Ghazi Al-Mufti	Oil expert	MOO
59 -	Ghassan Ahmed Rassim	Legal Advisor	MOO
60 -	Ghassan Ali Al-Hadban	Former D.G.	MOO
61 -	Dr. Ghassan Al-Mourani	Oil expert	
62 -	Ms. Faten Abed Muslim	Former chief engineer	MOO
63 -	Dr. Faleh Hassan Al-Khayat	Former D.G.	MOO
64 -	Faleh Al-Uthari	Former office director	MOO
65 -	Dr Farzdaq Al-Haddad	Former D.G.	MOO
66 -	Faisal Salman Ghali Al-Temimi	Former deputy industry minister /oil expert	
67 -	Fuoad Qassim Al-Amir	Former D.G / oil expert	

68 -	Fuoad Al-Kadhimi	Oil expert	MOO
69 -	Qassim Ahmed Taqi Al-Oraibi	Former Minister of Oil	
70 -	Dr Qassim Abdul Wahab	Former chief geologist	MOO
71 -	Kahtan Al-Sammarae	Economic expert / university professor	
72 -	Kahtan Al-Anbaki	Former deputy industry minister /oil expert	
73 -	Qaise Al-Juboori	Former D.G.	MOO
74 -	Kadhim Razooki	Former director of commission	MOO
75 -	Dr. Kamel Al-Adhadh	Economic and financial expert	
76 -	Kamal Al-Qaisi	Economic expert	MOO
77 -	Kareem Ali Al-Shammaa	Former Asst. organization president	MOO
78 -	Lafta Ahmed Al-Shadhan	Oil expert	MOO
79 -	Luay Mahdhar Bashi	Former manager	MOO
80 -	Dr. Mazen Mohd. Ali Jumah	Former deputy oil minister	
81 -	Dr. Malik Dohan Al-Hassan	Former minister of justice / legal advisor	
82 -	Muthana Abdul Munaem	Former office director	MOO
83 -	Dr. Mahboob Al-Chalabi	Oil expert	MOO
84 -	Dr. Madhat Kadhim Al-Quraishi	Economic expert /university professor	
85 -	Mohd. Rejab Abood	Former senior chief engineer	MOO
86 -	Mohd. Aboush	Oil expert	MOO
87 -	Dr. Mohd. Ali Zainy	Oil expert	MOO
88 -	Dr Mohd. Mahmood Al-Juboori	Former organization president / oil expert	Ministry of industry
89 -	Mohammed Mustafa Al-Juboori	Former minister of trade / oil expert	MOO
90 -	Mohd. Younis Al-Obaidi	Former D.G.	MOO

91 -	Mahmood Mahdhar Bashi	Former Asst. organization president	MOO
92 -	Mahmood Hammeed Ahmed	Former D.G.	MOO
93 -	Dr. Munna Al-Tae	Economic expert / university professor	
94 -	Dr Mahdi Henush	Former D.G.	MOO
95 -	Mehran Mehran	Oil expert	
96 -	Dr Nadhim Al-Shammary	Economic expert / university professor	
97 -	Dr Nadhim Al-Qazzaz	Oil expert	
98 -	Nabeel Lammouza	Former D.G.	MOO
99 -	Nammeer Al-Mufti	Former D.G.	MOO
100	Noori Hamed Al-Ani	Former D.G.	MOO
101	Ms. Wihda Zuwain	Former senior engineer	MOO
102	Dr. Walid Hanna	Planning expert /university professor	
103	Dr. Walid Khaddoori	Economic expert	
104	Walid Al-Dabbass	Financial expert	MOO
105	Hatef Sakin	Financial expert	MOO
106	Dr Hadi Al-Temimi	Economic expert / university professor	
107	Dr Hashem Al-Khersan	Former organization president	MOO
108	Yass Al-Janabi	Former D.G. / oil expert	Ministry of Planning