

**Enclosed, a letter addressed to the President and the Members of the Iraqi House of Representatives, we hope that it will be delivered and distributed of the broadest possible extent and we apologize to the signatories Messrs who weren't named above, we shall send the same messages to them as soon as we receive their E-mails in the next couple of days.**

**With great thanks and appreciation**

**The Preparatory Committee  
For the symposium Iraqi oil experts  
Held in Amman Feb.17<sup>th</sup> 2007**

**Attachments\**

- The Letter**
- Signatories**

## - OPEN LETTER -

Mr. President of House of Representatives,  
Messrs. Members of House of Representatives.

Greetings,

A few days ago, the Cabinet approved a draft law on oil and gas and forwarded it to your Honorable Council for discussion aiming for its approval and legislation.

In this regard, we, Iraqi oil experts living outside and inside Iraq, would like to emphasize the need for a law that regulates the activity of the oil sector and ensure optimal investment of the oil wealth for the country. However, having examined the detailed draft law and discussed in a seminar devoted to this purpose in Amman on Feb.17<sup>th</sup> 2007, it was noted that there were many gaps and ambiguities that should be noteworthy and dealt with by your honorable Council aiming to precision of the law in a way that will lead to the success of application transparency and efficiency, so as to achieve the supreme national interest.

And in a time when we were wishing to acquaint the public and civil society organizations on the drafted law, in addition to oil cadres specialized in this field to study and enrich it before it is referred to your Honorable Council to discuss its legislation, we reiterate our view that there is a rush in its issuance in the light of current complex circumstances in which our dear country going through.

The symposium, which was held in Amman, yielded with a set of recommendations that can be summarized as follows:

- (1) There is a noted rush in the passage of the law at the present time, and preferred to wait until the completion of the amendments to the Constitution under Article (142), and to be able to give more time to study and discuss it in a technical and professional manner. The absence of the Iraqi specialized vocations which had the honor of the takeoff in building the Iraqi oil industry known globally has been noticed, as well as the absence of the views of civil society organizations and trade unions in the discussion and enriching the draft law during the period of preparation.
- (2) Corroboration of the orientation which was presented by the draft law regarding the need to restructure the Ministry of Oil and the re-establishment of Iraq National Oil Company, with consideration clarity of responsibilities and induplication.
- (3) Notes of clear imbalance in the composition of the Federal Council of the oil and gas and the independent consultants Agency should be avoided, to ensure the efficient functioning and transparency and professionalism especially with regard to the assertion by taking into account all the components of the Iraqi people because of its consolidation of the principle of quotas, as well as the way of selecting the members of the consultants Agency and their services' period.

- (4) The need to reconsider the exception of transformation and service sector of this law as preferred to merge it at the present time or to work on the legislation of a special law in parallel interest in issuing the current law of oil and gas.
- (5) Review of the powers granted to the regional body in order to balance them with the federal powers and develop controls to ensure compliance with federal plan and the unity of resolution to block foreign companies competing to penetrate the national unity and shall be looked into this in the light of the forthcoming amendments to the Constitution.
- (6) We detect that the motive for the issuance of such law was based on raising production capacity to solicit foreign investments, and in this aspect, we recommend to plan to raise the energy gradually starting with rehabilitation of existing production fields using national effort (Iraq National Oil Company), followed by the development of giant fields already discovered - undeveloped or that in partial production and scheduling their priorities as per their capacity and development costs, regardless of their geographical location through service and operational contracts with companies of efficiency and technical capability, as needed, and to avoid entering into long-term contracts with foreign companies at the present time.
- (7) Continue to actively prospecting through national efforts, given the high rates of success and self-financing or through soft loans, especially for patches with high probabilities of success, and the limiting of contract licenses in their prospecting and development and production of areas that has low-lying prospects of success.
- (8) Avoid long-term commitments with international companies in the contracts for prospecting and development and production prior providing secure and appropriate environment to ensure the execution of companies operations. And in all cases we recommend offering contracts with foreign companies to be viewed by your Honorable Council for ratification.
- (9) As for the areas of finance, and in the light of the gradual ascent of the production rates for the whole of Iraq, it is proposed that the financing is essentially from the oil resources, and of foreign sources postponed pay by oil. As for the transformation and services sector could provide the required funds to enter into a partnership (Joint Venture) with local and foreign parties as a need.

At the end of our letter, we would like to reiterate our readiness to contribute to the maturing of this important law and the relevant laws and we are confident that your Honorable Council will deal with it in a patriotic sense entrusted you to give priority to the national interest over the political and factional considerations at this historic difficult juncture our country going through, and to slowdown in the issuance of the law until enriching it with the necessary required adjustments.

With deep appreciation and respect

**A list of the names of the signatories of the letter  
Submitted to the House of Representatives  
For the (Act Iraqi Oil and Gas)**

<b>No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Last Post</b>	<b>Ministry</b>
1	Dr. Ibrahim Abdulkareem Rashid	Former Director General	Oil
2	Dr. Ekramolhaq Bakir	Legal adviser	
3	Dr. Thamir Al aqili	Former Director General	Oil
4	Hazim Al sultan	Former Director General	Oil
5	Hassan Jawad Al hilli	The Former Operations Manager Of Phosphogypsum	Oil
6	Dr. Khalid Al shemmari	Economics Expert	
7	Rajih Mohiddin Yousif	Former Director General	Oil
8	Ra'ad Hassan Al azzawi	Former Assistant Director General	Oil
9	Dr. Reyadh Al dabbagh	Former University President / Consultant Geologist	High Education
10	Sa'adallah Al fat'hi	Former Director General	Oil
11	Samir Kubbah	Oil Expert	Oil
12	Samir Zahroon	Oil Expert	Oil
13	Sa'ad Salih Al Zubaidi	Former Director General	Finance
14	Sharif Muhsin Ali	Former Director General	Oil
15	Sabri Abdullrazzaq Kathom	Oil Expert	Oil
16	Sa'ib Bahjat	Former Chief Engineer	Oil
17	Sabah Al mukhtar	Legal Adviser	Oil
18	Sabah Yasin Awni	Consultant	Finance
19	Dheya' Shamkhi Al bakka'	Former Director General	Oil
20	Tariq Al a'ni	Former Director General	Oil
21	Tariq Al rahayem	Oil Expert	Oil
22	Tariq Shafiq	Consultant/ Found Member (INOC)	Oil
23	Dr. Talal Ashur Kan'an	Former Director General	Oil
24	Abdullah Yunis Al khayri	Former Chemical Industries Consultant	Industry
25	Dr. Abdulilah Muslih	Former Director General	Oil
26	Othman Abdulbaqi Al rawi	Former Director General	Oil
27	Issam Abdulrahim Al chalabi	Former Minister	Oil
28	Ali Ach'am	Former Director General	Oil
29	Ali Rajab	Former Director General	Oil
30	Imad Mohammad Ali Kubbah	Former Director	Oil
31	Irfan Zaki Amin	Former Director General	Oil
32	Azzam Bakir Yehya	Former Director General	Oil
33	Abdulsalam Abdulaziz Al qaysi	Former Director	Oil
34	Ghazi Sabir Ali	Former Director General	Oil
35	Ghassan Ahmad Rasim	Former Director of the Legal Dep.	Oil
36	Ghassan Al hadban	Former Director General	Oil
37	Dr. Falih Hassan Al khayatt	Former Director General	Oil

38	Falih Muhsin Al othari	Former Director General	Oil
39	Farazdaq Al haddad	Former Deputy Director General	Oil
40	Faisal Salman Ghali Al tamimi	Former Deputy Minister/ Geologist	Industry
41	Qassim Taqi Al oraybi	Former Minister	Oil
42	Qassim Abdulwahab	Former Chief Of Geologists	Oil
43	Qahttan Hamid Al anbaki	Former Deputy Minister	Oil
44	Dr. Kamil Al ath'ath	Financial Advisor	Finance
45	Karim Al shamma'	Former chairman Assistant of a Firm	Oil
46	Kamal Al qaysi	Economics Expert	Oil
47	Laftah Al shad'han	Oil Expert	Oil
48	Lu'ay Mhadh'ir Bashi	Former Director General	Oil
49	Dr. Mahboub Al chalabi	Geology consultant	Oil
50	Mohammad Ali Zayni	Oil Expert	Oil
51	Mohammad Mustafa Al juboori	Former Minister/ Former Director General	Trade/ Oil
52	Dr. Mohammad Mahmoud Al juboori	Former Director General	Industry
53	Mohammad Yunis Al obaydi	Former Director General	Oil
54	Mohammad Abbood Al sa'di	Former Expert	Oil
55	Mohammad Hamid Ahmad	Former Director General	Oil
56	Mahmoud Mhadh'ir Bashi	Former Chairman Assistant of a Firm	Oil
57	Ma'ath Al Fay'adh	Expert	Oil
58	Muthanna Abdulmun'im Al duri	Under former Chief	Oil
59	Dr. Mazin Mohammad Ali Juma'h	Former Deputy Ministry	Oil
60	Noori Al 'ani	Former Director General	Oil
61	Walid Tafiq Al dabbas	Former Financial Expert	Oil