



**Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq  
(ISCI) Washington, DC**

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## **"Iraq Stability In Progress"**

**The Perspective of  
H.E. Sayyed Abdul Aziz Alhakim**

**President of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq (ISCI) and the Leader  
of the United Iraqi Alliance, The Council of Representatives Majority**

**U.S. Institute of Peace**

**17th St NW, Washington, DC 20036**

**Monday, December 3, 2007 - 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM**

## **In the name of Allah, Most Merciful, Most Compassionate**

Assalamu Alaykum,

Almost a year ago, we were in Washington and we mentioned to officials and think tanks that what we were seeking is to build the foundation for peace in Iraq and to stop the sectarian, Takferee violence and to combat terrorism. So, have we succeeded in doing that?

Yes, we have accomplished a lot. Sectarian violence is noticeably decreasing at a very high rate. Today no one is talking about sectarian violence any more. We called for depending on the people in fighting terrorism. When our call found its listening ears, with what is being called “the Awakening” movements, we are witnessing today a great development in achieving security, and the uprooting of the main Al-Qaeda centers in the country.

We said that we’d work on improving services rendered to our citizens. We have accomplished a lot in that area. We can proudly mention that more than 500 projects are being carried out in each province. The average amount of electricity available to each citizen has reached up to 14 hours / day in most provinces. Unemployment has dropped to less than 20% after it was about 50%. The inflation rate also witnessed a drop from 65% to 16% according to statistics of the World Bank.

We said we need to build good relations with the world and neighboring countries. During the past year, we have witnessed a noticeable development with our Arab and regional neighboring countries. This was highlighted by concluding several agreements and meetings between Iraq and countries around the world, and we also called for a U.S. – Iranian dialogue regarding Iraq.

Today we are serious in trying to achieve and solve many important issues for the future of Iraq. Among them are: the achievement of national reconciliation which we have accomplished a good part of; continuous work towards rebuilding all of Iraq; fighting administrative corruption; we have made good progress on important laws like the law of oil and gas, the law of the provinces, the law of elections, and getting ready for new elections in all the provinces.

We are working on achieving federalism for all Iraq through a popular referendum, and to be committed to realize popular opinions and will in unifying the administrative system in all Iraq.

We are also working on a security agreement between Iraq and the United States, and to bring Iraq out of Chapter Seven of the UN Security Council Resolution to regain its complete sovereignty. We are working hard to build Iraqi forces capable of protecting the safety of the citizens from terrorist and extremist attacks.

We are aware of the difficulties that we are facing in Iraq. We have great hopes that the good countries of the world will stand with our Iraqi people in our struggle to build a country based on the rule of law.

We are very confident that Iraqis are capable of establishing a law-abiding democracy over time because in the past four years, Iraqis have created miracles and they are capable of achieving further progress.

Thank You

