Country/entity	Iraq
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Final Communiqué of International Ministerial Meeting of the Neighboring Countries of Iraq, The G8 and China
Date	23 Nov 2004
Agreement status	Unilateral document
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

Iraq Wars and the Iraqi Insurgency (1989-1990) (2004 -)

In the aftermath of the Iraq-UN conflict following President Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait in 1989, the UN enforced no-fly zones and set up a monitoring commission of the arms capacity of the Iraqi government. By the late 1990s, Iraqi officials had increased their resistance against the implementation of these programmes. In the aftermath of the 2001 terrorist attacks on New York, the U.S. accused the Iraqi government of having weapons of mass destruction. In 2003, a U.S.-led coalition overthrew the government of Saddam Hussein, but failed to maintain security in the country as ex-Bathist and Islamist groups launched a counter-campaign. Violence reached a peak in 2006 as the conflict took on sectarian traits leading to mass human rights violations by domestic Sunni and Shi'a groups, as well as occupying forces. Despite the failure to stabilize the country, the U.S.-led forces withdrew in December 2011. Since then Iraq has effectively been split into three territories based on ethno-religious identity including the Shi'a in the south, the Kurds in the north, and a Sunni band in the middle, which is currently occupied by the organisation known as the Islamic State (formerly of Iraq and the Levant).
Close
Iraq Wars and the Iraqi Insurgency (1989-1990) (2004 -)

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Iraq peace process - second Iraq war

Parties	Participating in the meeting were the Foreign Ministers of: "The Group of Countries Neighboring Iraq", namely The Arab Republic of Egypt, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, The Islamic Republic of Iran, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, The Republic of Iraq, The Republic of Turkey, The Syrian Arab Republic, and The State of Kuwait as well as the "Group of Eight" countries, namely Canada, Republic of France, Republic of Italy, The Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, The Russian Federation, The United Kingdom and The United States of America. As well as, the People's Republic of China as a permanent member of the Security Council, Tunisia, Algeria, Kingdom of Bahrain, Malaysia, The Kingdom of the Netherlands. Also participating were the Secretary General of the United Nations, the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference and the Representatives of the European Union.
Third parties	-
Description	UNSC Resolution affirms 12 points agreed International Ministerial Meeting on Iraq was convened in Sharm El Sheikh on November 23rd 2004, arranging for democratic elections and debt restructuring, among other points.

Agreement document	IQ_041123_Iraq, G8, and China.pdf (opens in new tab) | Download PDF

Groups

Children/youth	No specific mention.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
Men and boys	No specific mention.
LGBTI	No specific mention.
Family	No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general)	Page 1, 1 - To reaffirm the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Iraq, as well as the relevance of the principles of non-interference in internal affairs as articulated in the UN Charter and the principle of good neighborly relations. They also affirm the right of the Iraqi people to a secure and stable life and to determine freely their future through democratic means and to exercise full control over their natural and financial resources. They committed themselves to help the Iraqi people to reach these goals. Page 2, 5 - ... They also welcome the commitment of the Interim Government of Iraq, acting in the spirit of national dialogue and consensus building, to promote Iraq's transition to a united, federal, democratic and pluralistic state, in which political and human rights are observed in full measure.
State configuration	No specific mention.
Self determination	No specific mention.
Referendum	No specific mention.
State symbols	No specific mention.
Independence/ secession	No specific mention.
Accession/ unification	No specific mention.
Border delimitation	No specific mention.
Cross-border provision	No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)	Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references Page 2, 5 - To welcome all steps taken so far to achieve democracy in Iraq and to encourage the Interim Government of Iraq to continue the political process by holding general elections before the end of January 2005, to a Transitional National Assembly, which will have responsibility for forming a Transitional Government of Iraq and drafting a permanent constitution for Iraq leading to the formation of a constitutionally elected government by December 31,2005 in line with the timetable endorsed in Security Council Resolution 1546. They also welcome the commitment of the Interim Government of Iraq, acting in the spirit of national dialogue and consensus building, to promote Iraq's transition to a united, federal, democratic and pluralistic state, in which political and human rights are observed in full measure. Page 3, 11- ... To recognize the importance of the effective pursuit of the Interim Government of Iraq of its commitment to the creation of fair and transparent and non discriminatory conditions that would enable all parties to participate in the reconstruction of Iraq on an equal footing and to the fullest extent possible, for the benefit of Iraqi economic development.
Elections	Page 2, 4 - ... In this respect, they welcome the efforts of the Interim Government of Iraq and other leaders of the Iraqi community to broaden political participation, by encouraging all elements who reject violence to engage in the political and electoral process through peaceful means. In this respect the Ministers encourage the Interim Government of Iraq to convene in Iraq, at the earliest date, before the general elections, representatives of the Iraqi political spectrum and civil society in order to share with them the results of the Sharm El Sheikh meeting, so as to advance nation-building and national reconciliation with the view to encouraging broader participation in the general elections. Page 2, 5 - To welcome all steps taken so far to achieve democracy in Iraq and to encourage the Interim Government of Iraq to continue the political process by holding general elections before the end of January 2005, to a Transitional National Assembly, which will have responsibility for forming a Transitional Government of Iraq and drafting a permanent constitution for Iraq leading to the formation of a constitutionally elected government by December 31,2005 in line with the timetable endorsed in Security Council Resolution 1546. They also welcome the commitment of the Interim Government of Iraq, acting in the spirit of national dialogue and consensus building, to promote Iraq's transition to a united, federal, democratic and pluralistic state, in which political and human rights are observed in full measure.
Electoral commission	No specific mention.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.

Civil society

Page 2, 4 - ... In this respect the Ministers encourage the Interim Government of Iraq to convene in Iraq, at the earliest date, before the general elections, representatives of the Iraqi political spectrum and civil society in order to share with them the results of the Sharm El Sheikh meeting, so as to advance nation-building and national reconciliation with the view to encouraging broader participation in the general elections.

Page 2, 7- To condemn all acts of kidnapping and assassination, including those of civilians working in local and foreign firms for the reconstruction of Iraq, international and humanitarian organizations providing assistance to the Iraqi people, members of diplomatic missions and journalists, call on all parties to intensify their efforts and to support the Interim Government of Iraq in confronting criminal activities.

Page 3, 11- To reiterate the importance of humanitarian assistance and providing support for the reconstruction of Iraq, as well as creating the necessary conditions to achieve economic and social development, thereby contributing to the efforts to achieve stability and security in Iraq. To call also, in this context, on all donor countries and organizations to expedite the disbursement of financial assistance pledged at the October 2003 Madrid meeting of the donors committee, in order to meet the priorities outlined by the Interim Government of Iraq, and to allocate these pledges to specific projects for Iraq, and to encourage further contributions. In this context, the Ministers note the achievements of the Tokyo meeting in October 2004, in broadening fiirther international cooperation in support of self-help by the Interim Government of Iraq, following its own national development strategy. To recognize the importance of the effective pursuit of the Interim Government of Iraq of its commitment to the creation of fair and transparent and non discriminatory conditions that would enable all parties to participate in the reconstruction of Iraq on an equal footing and to the fullest extent possible, for the benefit of Iraqi economic development.

Traditional/ religious leaders

No specific mention.

Public administration

No specific mention.

Constitution

Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making
Page 1, 3 - ... The Ministers underline the importance of the United Nations continuing to play a leading role, including in promoting national dialogue and consensus building on the drafting of a permanent national constitution by the people of Iraq in 2005.

Page 2, 5 - To welcome all steps taken so far to achieve democracy in Iraq and to encourage the Interim Government of Iraq to continue the political process by holding general elections before the end of January 2005, to a Transitional National Assembly, which will have responsibility for forming a Transitional Government of Iraq and drafting a permanent constitution for Iraq leading to the formation of a constitutionally elected government by December 31,2005 in line with the timetable endorsed in Security Council Resolution 1546. They also welcome the commitment of the Interim Government of Iraq, acting in the spirit of national dialogue and consensus building, to promote Iraq's transition to a united, federal, democratic and pluralistic state, in which political and human rights are observed in full measure.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
Military power sharing	No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	Page 2, 5 - ... They also welcome the commitment of the Interim Government of Iraq, acting in the spirit of national dialogue and consensus building, to promote Iraq's transition to a united, federal, democratic and pluralistic state, in which political and human rights are observed in full measure. 6 - To condemn all acts of terrorism in Iraq and call for the immediate cessation of all such acts in order to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqi people, preserve the lives of innocent Iraqis and display respect for their human rights. ... They also call on the Interim Government of Iraq to deal resolutely, in accordance with international humanitarian law and relevant security council resolutions, with the terrorist presence in Iraq and terrorist activities in and from Iraq which threaten the security of its neighbors. Page 3, 10- To reiterate that the mandate of the Multi-National Forces in Iraq is not open ended; it will expire in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 12 of UNSCR 1546, on completion of the political process. Also to recognize the importance of the consent of the sovereign Government of Iraq for the presence of these forces and that these forces have indicated their commitment to act in accordance with International Law including obligations under international humanitarian law, as noted in UNSCR 1546. Also to highlight the need to enable the Iraqi security forces as expeditiously as possible to play an increasingly greater role and to ultimately assume full responsibility for the maintenance of security and stability in Iraq, and to request countries to continue, and where possible, increase, their efforts to assist the Interim Government of Iraq in building the capability of these forces, as specified in paragraph 16 of Security Council Resolution 1546.
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	Page 1, At the invitation of the Arab Republic of Egypt, an International Ministerial Meeting on Iraq was convened in Sharm El Sheikh on November 23rd 2004 with the objective of supporting the aspirations of the Iraqi people, the political process as envisaged by Security Council Resolution 1546, including the holding of direct democratic elections, and the efforts of the Interim Government of Iraqi in that process. Page 1, 1 - To reaffirm the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Iraq, as well as the relevance of the principles of non-interference in internal affairs as articulated in the UN Charter and the principle of good neighborly relations. They also affirm the right of the Iraqi people to a secure and stable life and to determine freely their future through democratic means and to exercise full control over their natural and financial resources. They committed themselves to help the Iraqi people to reach these goals. Page 2, 5 - To welcome all steps taken so far to achieve democracy in Iraq and to encourage the Interim Government of Iraq to continue the political process by holding general elections before the end of January 2005, to a Transitional National Assembly, which will have responsibility for forming a Transitional Government of Iraq and drafting a permanent constitution for Iraq leading to the formation of a constitutionally elected government by December 31,2005 in line with the timetable endorsed in Security Council Resolution 1546. They also welcome the commitment of the Interim Government of Iraq, acting in the spirit of national dialogue and consensus building, to promote Iraq's transition to a united, federal, democratic and pluralistic state, in which political and human rights are observed in full measure.
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Other Page 2, 7- To condemn all acts of kidnapping and assassination, including those of civilians working in local and foreign firms for the reconstruction of Iraq, international and humanitarian organizations providing assistance to the Iraqi people, members of diplomatic missions and journalists, call on all parties to intensify their efforts and to support the Interim Government of Iraq in confronting criminal activities.
Mobility/access	No specific mention.
Protection measures	No specific mention.
Other	No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	No specific mention.
State of emergency provisions	No specific mention.
Judiciary and courts	No specific mention.
Prisons and detention	No specific mention.
Traditional Laws	No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction

Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
Page 3, 11- To reiterate the importance of humanitarian assistance and providing support for the reconstruction of Iraq, as well as creating the necessary conditions to achieve economic and social development, thereby contributing to the efforts to achieve stability and security in Iraq. To call also, in this context, on all donor countries and organizations to expedite the disbursement of financial assistance pledged at the October 2003 Madrid meeting of the donors committee, in order to meet the priorities outlined by the Interim Government of Iraq, and to allocate these pledges to specific projects for Iraq, and to encourage further contributions. In this context, the Ministers note the achievements of the Tokyo meeting in October 2004, in broadening fiirther international cooperation in support of self-help by the Interim Government of Iraq, following its own national development strategy. To recognize the importance of the effective pursuit of the Interim Government of Iraq of its commitment to the creation of fair and transparent and non discriminatory conditions that would enable all parties to participate in the reconstruction of Iraq on an equal footing and to the fullest extent possible, for the benefit of Iraqi economic development.

Page 3, 11- ... To recognize the importance of the effective pursuit of the Interim Government of Iraq of its commitment to the creation of fair and transparent and non discriminatory conditions that would enable all parties to participate in the reconstruction of Iraq on an equal footing and to the fullest extent possible, for the benefit of Iraqi economic development.
Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance
Page 2, 7- To condemn all acts of kidnapping and assassination, including those of civilians working in local and foreign firms for the reconstruction of Iraq, international and humanitarian organizations providing assistance to the Iraqi people, members of diplomatic missions and journalists, call on all parties to intensify their efforts and to support the Interim Government of Iraq in confronting criminal activities.

Page 3, 11- To reiterate the importance of humanitarian assistance and providing support for the reconstruction of Iraq, as well as creating the necessary conditions to achieve economic and social development, thereby contributing to the efforts to achieve stability and security in Iraq. To call also, in this context, on all donor countries and organizations to expedite the disbursement of financial assistance pledged at the October 2003 Madrid meeting of the donors committee, in order to meet the priorities outlined by the Interim Government of Iraq, and to allocate these pledges to specific projects for Iraq, and to encourage further contributions. In this context, the Ministers note the achievements of the Tokyo meeting in October 2004, in broadening fiirther international cooperation in support of self-help by the Interim Government of Iraq, following its own national development strategy. To recognize the importance of the effective pursuit of the Interim Government of Iraq of its commitment to the creation of fair and transparent and non discriminatory conditions that would enable all parties to participate in the reconstruction of Iraq on an equal footing and to the fullest extent possible, for the benefit of Iraqi economic development.
Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Infrastructure and reconstruction
Page 2, 7- To condemn all acts of kidnapping and assassination, including those of civilians working in local and foreign firms for the reconstruction of Iraq, international and humanitarian organizations providing assistance to the Iraqi people, members of diplomatic missions and journalists, call on all parties to intensify their efforts and to support the Interim Government of Iraq in confronting criminal activities.

Page 3, 11- To reiterate the importance of humanitarian assistance and providing support

National economic plan

Page 3, 12- To recognize that reduction of debt is a key element in Iraq's reconstruction. In this context, the Ministers welcome the commitments taken in this regard by many creditors including those of the Paris Club and call on Iraq's creditors to take steps to reduce substantially Iraq's sovereign debt. To reaffirm the importance of bringing to justice members of the previous Iraqi regime who have committed war crimes against Iran and Kuwait, and crimes against humanity affecting the Iraqi people. To direct their respective representatives to regularly review progress in fulfilling the commitments and implementing the conclusions reached at this conference and to report to Ministers on the outcome of their follow-up meetings, the first such meeting to take place in February 2005, and to consult with the Iraqi authorities on the possibility of convening future international meetings, including in Iraq. At the end of the meeting the Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting this meeting.

Natural resources

Page 1, 1 - To reaffirm the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Iraq, as well as the relevance of the principles of non-interference in internal affairs as articulated in the UN Charter and the principle of good neighborly relations. They also affirm the right of the Iraqi people to a secure and stable life and to determine freely their future through democratic means and to exercise full control over their natural and financial resources. They committed themselves to help the Iraqi people to reach these goals.

International funds

Page 1, 3 - ... The Ministers welcome the efforts of the United Nations and call upon the international community to provide the assistance necessary to protect the UN in Iraq.

Page 3,
11- To reiterate the importance of humanitarian assistance and providing support for the reconstruction of Iraq, as well as creating the necessary conditions to achieve economic and social development, thereby contributing to the efforts to achieve stability and security in Iraq. To call also, in this context, on all donor countries and organizations to expedite the disbursement of financial assistance pledged at the October 2003 Madrid meeting of the donors committee, in order to meet the priorities outlined by the Interim Government of Iraq, and to allocate these pledges to specific projects for Iraq, and to encourage further contributions. In this context, the Ministers note the achievements of the Tokyo meeting in October 2004, in broadening fiirther international cooperation in support of self-help by the Interim Government of Iraq, following its own national development strategy. To recognize the importance of the effective pursuit of the Interim Government of Iraq of its commitment to the creation of fair and transparent and non discriminatory conditions that would enable all parties to participate in the reconstruction of Iraq on an equal footing and to the fullest extent possible, for the benefit of Iraqi economic development.

Business

No specific mention.

Taxation

No specific mention.

Banks

No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights	No specific mention.
Pastoralist/ nomadism rights	No specific mention.
Cultural heritage	No specific mention.
Environment	No specific mention.
Water or riparian rights or access	No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees	Page 2, 6 - To condemn all acts of terrorism in Iraq and call for the immediate cessation of all such acts in order to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqi people, preserve the lives of innocent Iraqis and display respect for their human rights. To also call on all parties to avoid excessive use of force and to exercise maximum self-restraint to avoid violence inflicted on civilians. Page 2, 7- To condemn all acts of kidnapping and assassination, including those of civilians working in local and foreign firms for the reconstruction of Iraq, international and humanitarian organizations providing assistance to the Iraqi people, members of diplomatic missions and journalists, call on all parties to intensify their efforts and to support the Interim Government of Iraq in confronting criminal activities. Page 2, 8- To call on all parties concerned to take steps to contribute to the stability of Iraq, to reaffirm the obligations of United Nations member states under UNSCR 1546 to prevent the transit of terrorists to and from Iraq, arms for terrorists, and financing that would support terrorists, and call upon the neighboring countries of Iraq and all concerned international parties to intensify cooperation to control the Iraqi borders. To that end, they take note of the agreement reached by the neighboring countries of Iraq to intensify their cooperation and note further their call for a meeting of Ministers of Interior of the neighboring countries of Iraq, as agreed upon in the Sixth Meeting of the Neighboring Countries of Iraq held in Cairo on July 21,2004. Page 2, 9- To re-emphasize the importance of following the principles of good neighborly relations and non interference in the internal affairs of other nations as articulated in the UN Charter, and also to welcome the role played by all parties concerned, including those of the regional organizations, especially the League of Arab States, to create a conducive environment to achieve security and stability in the region. The Ministers encourage measures aimed at building confidence as related to the situation in Iraq.
Ceasefire	No specific mention.

Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	Page 3, 10- To reiterate that the mandate of the Multi-National Forces in Iraq is not open ended; it will expire in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 12 of UNSCR 1546, on completion of the political process. Also to recognize the importance of the consent of the sovereign Government of Iraq for the presence of these forces and that these forces have indicated their commitment to act in accordance with International Law including obligations under international humanitarian law, as noted in UNSCR 1546. Also to highlight the need to enable the Iraqi security forces as expeditiously as possible to play an increasingly greater role and to ultimately assume full responsibility for the maintenance of security and stability in Iraq, and to request countries to continue, and where possible, increase, their efforts to assist the Interim Government of Iraq in building the capability of these forces, as specified in paragraph 16 of Security Council Resolution 1546.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.

Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	Page 2, 6 - To condemn all acts of terrorism in Iraq and call for the immediate cessation of all such acts in order to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqi people, preserve the lives of innocent Iraqis and display respect for their human rights. ... They also call on the Interim Government of Iraq to deal resolutely, in accordance with international humanitarian law and relevant security council resolutions, with the terrorist presence in Iraq and terrorist activities in and from Iraq which threaten the security of its neighbors. Page 2, 8- To call on all parties concerned to take steps to contribute to the stability of Iraq, to reaffirm the obligations of United Nations member states under UNSCR 1546 to prevent the transit of terrorists to and from Iraq, arms for terrorists, and financing that would support terrorists, and call upon the neighboring countries of Iraq and all concerned international parties to intensify cooperation to control the Iraqi borders. To that end, they take note of the agreement reached by the neighboring countries of Iraq to intensify their cooperation and note further their call for a meeting of Ministers of Interior of the neighboring countries of Iraq, as agreed upon in the Sixth Meeting of the Neighboring Countries of Iraq held in Cairo on July 21,2004.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	Transitional justice→Courts→National courts Page 3, 12- To recognize that reduction of debt is a key element in Iraq's reconstruction. In this context, the Ministers welcome the commitments taken in this regard by many creditors including those of the Paris Club and call on Iraq's creditors to take steps to reduce substantially Iraq's sovereign debt. To reaffirm the importance of bringing to justice members of the previous Iraqi regime who have committed war crimes against Iran and Kuwait, and crimes against humanity affecting the Iraqi people. To direct their respective representatives to regularly review progress in fulfilling the commitments and implementing the conclusions reached at this conference and to report to Ministers on the outcome of their follow-up meetings, the first such meeting to take place in February 2005, and to consult with the Iraqi authorities on the possibility of convening future international meetings, including in Iraq. At the end of the meeting the Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting this meeting.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.

Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	Also participating were the Secretary General of the United Nations,
Other international signatory	UN
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/ similar	Page 1, 3 - To stress the leading role of the United Nations in supporting, as circumstances permit, the political process in Iraq as stipulated in paragraphs 4 and 7 of Security Council Resolution 1546. The Ministers welcome the leading role the UN has played in terms of advice and support for the process of holding elections, including the recent decision to deploy more electoral staff to Iraq to help with preparations for elections. The Ministers underline the importance of the United Nations continuing to play a leading role, including in promoting national dialogue and consensus building on the drafting of a permanent national constitution by the people of Iraq in 2005. The Ministers welcome the efforts of the United Nations and call upon the international community to provide the assistance necessary to protect the UN in Iraq. The Ministers also welcome a supporting role by the League of Arab States along side the role of the United Nations.
Enforcement mechanism	Page 3, 12- To recognize that reduction of debt is a key element in Iraq's reconstruction. In this context, the Ministers welcome the commitments taken in this regard by many creditors including those of the Paris Club and call on Iraq's creditors to take steps to reduce substantially Iraq's sovereign debt. To reaffirm the importance of bringing to justice members of the previous Iraqi regime who have committed war crimes against Iran and Kuwait, and crimes against humanity affecting the Iraqi people. To direct their respective representatives to regularly review progress in fulfilling the commitments and implementing the conclusions reached at this conference and to report to Ministers on the outcome of their follow-up meetings, the first such meeting to take place in February 2005, and to consult with the Iraqi authorities on the possibility of convening future international meetings, including in Iraq. At the end of the meeting the Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting this meeting.