



Speech of the republic of Iraq

Delivered by

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Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq

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Honorable President of the General Assembly
Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, UN Secretary General
Honorable heads of delegations
Respected Members of the General Assembly
Honorable attendants

The 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly is being held under world challenges on many scales, especially, fighting the terrorism of Da'esh. We in Iraq stand steadfast and patient alongside with good people to push the evil of the terrorists away from our country, the region and the world. This happens while the international efforts continue to promote peace and security, deepen communication among people of the world, and attaining human development, of which, the UN has remarkably considered whether in health, education and living standards.

Since the UN development program launched the first human development report in 1990, countries of the world, including Iraq, started to look forward to achieve a frequent improvement in their human development levels. And, since the international human development has launched this report a quarter of a century ago, many achievements have been made to people in the light of making them a target and means of development.

In Iraq, and because of the wrong policies of Saddam's dictator regime, human development level has dropped after a series of wars ignited by this regime in addition to the embargo and deprivation that came with the international sanctions.

After changing the political regime and spreading a democratic environment in the country, and with the support of the related UN

organizations and other international organizations, the development conditions witnessed a relative improvement.

Our national institutions tried to reduce the gap in development after the third millennium declaration has been endorsed by the world leaders in the UN General Assembly's meeting of 2000 which specified certain goals and made the 2015 as the target year.

Ladies and gentlemen

We achieved in Iraq a remarkable progress in dropping rates of mortality, raising the percentages of education, reducing gender gap inequality, and improving the living standards. However, the evil will carried by the terrorist groups especially Al-Qaeda and Da'esh and the ones who followed them from the Ba'ath ex-regime have hindered the development movement and spread murder and destruction which targeted people, possessions and infrastructure... their deep rooted wickedness did not distinguish between a child or an old man, or a woman. They terrified the peaceful populations in many areas of Iraq by displacement and ethnic cleansing, even those people who were alleged to be protected by them. Today the people of west and north of Iraq are either displaced mercilessly away from their homes, or are suffering in their cities and villages where the killers' claws are attacking them every day.

While we highly appreciate the support of the UN and the international community in our just war, and the hard efforts to stabilize the liberated areas by our security forces, public mobilization and tribes, we look forward for an active contribution by the countries and organizations to repair the infrastructure of these areas in addition to the reconstruction efforts.

Iraq, and in spite of all what happened, continues its democratic approach to promote respecting the constitution, peaceful transition of power, free expression of opinion, freedom of religion, eliminating ethnic and religious discrimination. We, while facing all these challenges, are considering the public demands in different areas, and the security forces are determined to protect the demonstrators and giving them freedom to express their demands. I personally tasked work teams to follow up all these demands, and meetings are being held with their representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Based on the government program we adopted in front of the Council of Representatives and in the light of an advanced vision of the supreme Marja'iyah which urges for reforms, and led by the inspiration of the people's demands during the last two months, we produced a political, economic, administrative, and financial package of reforms. And we started working on activating the private sector in our country. We also prepared the necessary finance to endorse small and medium, businesses in spite of the hard financial conditions in Iraq after the huge drop of oil prices.

The people respected and accepted these reforms with a transparent identification of their needs; this reform came as a support by the Supreme Marja'iyah in Najaf and other segments of the society. We are determined to continue in these reforms without neglecting our important role in managing the security and military operations to fight Da'esh. Here, I have to commend, in the name of the Iraqi people, the efforts of the international coalition and brotherly, friendly countries in

this war, as providing more support especially in addressing the displaced persons and meeting their needs, and increasing military and logistical support will make us closer to achieve final victory while spreading peace in all over the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Iraq realized the importance of following up the formation of a new development document adopted by the UN after the third millennium declaration. The Iraqi experts and national institutions participated in the global efforts in our region to form a new declaration project. We celebrate this year launching this project “Sustainable Development Goals”

The importance of this declaration is not limited to attain more development for humans but to make sure of keeping this condition, by promoting clean safe environment, protecting the rights of the next generations, spreading peace and security, eliminating poverty and discrimination, and improving the health and educational levels for children in addition to providing more freedoms.

The important items of “sustainable development” and the time schedule for reaching its goals in 2030 require us all to work hard in our countries on one side, and promoting more cooperation between people of the world and their governments on the other one, to provide the UN an enough space for constructive movement which speed up achieving these targets and to exchange knowledge and practices within its programs throughout countries of the world. Iraq will be serious and enthusiastic to work and attain the “goals of sustainable development 2030”.

However, we expect from all countries to adhere and implement UNSC resolutions (2170, 2178, and 2199) which are related to prohibiting the support, finance and armament for terrorist groups, in addition to the resolution of the General Assembly 281 in 25/5/2015 related to saving Iraqi heritage which will support building the country and achieve development.

The people and government of Iraq realize the importance of reaching out to the people and governments of the world, and contribute in the efforts of promoting security in addition to communicating with countries of the region in a noninterference policy in order to guarantee the future for our generations.

Finally, I would like to thank and commend the efforts of peace for Iraq by the United Nations and other organizations and world leaders and their representatives. We hope to meet next year under better conditions where all of our people witness more progress and peace.

Peace and Allah's Mercy be upon You

Dr. Haider Al-Abadi
Prime Minister of Iraq