

COALITION EFFORTS IN IRAQ

Question: To what extent are other nations contributing to the reconstruction efforts?

Answer:

- The international response to stability operations in Iraq is significant. The United States and the United Kingdom do not stand alone in Iraq.
- Thirty-nine countries have offered to provide military capabilities to support coalition security and stability operations.
- The capabilities range from field hospitals for humanitarian support to the Iraqi people to combat divisions and brigades to offset United States divisional requirements.
- The United Kingdom and Poland each have agreed to lead multinational divisions to meet Commander, CENTCOM's stability and security requirements. The rapid international response to the UK and Polish offer to lead a multi-national division is gratifying.
- We hope in the near future to have a third country either to lead another multinational division or to provide a full division capability to reduce US military requirements.

Question: What other countries are participating in the reconstruction effort and to what extent?

Answer:

- Coalition forces have made and will continue to make substantive contributions to Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- For example:
 - Italy has offered 400-500 carabinieri for security duties.
 - Spain has provided 125 Guardia Civil forces for security duties.
 - Albania has provided military forces for stability operations.
 - Lithuanian cargo handlers are already in country, helping with the delivery of humanitarian relief supplies.

- As a more stable and permissive environment is achieved, we expect even broader coalition participation.
- We have had a tremendous surge in offers of medical support to assist with humanitarian efforts and we are moving quickly to integrate these assets into our overall effort.
- For example:
 - Czech field hospital has deployed into Iraq.
 - Spain has a ship in the Gulf with a medical unit onboard, which is treating Iraqi civilians.
 - Lithuania has sent a medical team.
- Other humanitarian assistance and international support for the overall reconstruction of Iraq are being coordinated by Mr. Jay Garner and the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance.
 - UK, Australia, Denmark, Spain and Romania have personnel who are part of the ORHA staff.
 - Other countries have expressed an interest in sending personnel to take part in ORHA's activities. Now that ORHA has moved to Baghdad, we expect that these countries' personnel will join the ORHA staff, and that other countries will send personnel as well.

Question: What roles are Iraq's Arab neighbors playing in the reconstruction process?

Answer:

Several of the Gulf Cooperation Council members are contributing to the reconstruction effort.

- Jordan: providing a field hospital and medical supplies.
- Qatar: Medical team and de-mining team.
- Saudi Arabia: Cash/in-kind offer of \$26.7 million.
- Kuwait: providing field hospital and medical supplies.
- UAE: Medical supplies and personnel to Olympia Hospital, Baghdad.

Question: What role does the UN have in the reconstruction effort right now and in the future?

Answer:

- The UN will play an important role in Iraq. UN functional agencies have historically played a very large role in areas like refugee assistance and humanitarian relief.
- The World Food Program is already engaged in Iraq. We welcome the fact that the UN has already passed one resolution to extend the oil-for-food program for 45 days to continue its functioning in Iraq.
- The larger role of the UN will be determined in coordination with the Iraqi people, and with other members of the Coalition.
 - The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund can also play very useful roles with their financial resources and expertise.
 - There will be plenty of work for everyone.