

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

AND

**THE MINISTRY OF OIL
OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ**

FOR

**COOPERATION ON CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE ENERGY
SECTOR**

The Department of State of the United States of America (the "Department of State") and the Ministry of Oil of the Republic of Iraq (the "Iraq Ministry of Oil"), hereinafter referred to as the "Participants":

Having a mutual interest in exchanging experience and views to promote and support capacity building in the energy sector by providing to Iraq Ministry of Oil employees technical assistance and opportunities for: (i) exchanges of technical knowledge concerning the exploration, development and production of oil and gas resources, and related technologies for the public benefit; (ii) training in the use of modern equipment and laboratory facilities; (iii) strengthening the policy, management and regulatory capabilities of governmental institutions; and (iv) training in developing, implementing and regulating systems that incorporate modern-day safety and environmental standards; among other areas.

Recognizing that the Department of State intends, subject to the availability of appropriated funds, to commit funds to share the cost to the Government of Iraq of programs to train Iraq Ministry of Oil employees, as described in this MOU;

Have reached the following understandings:

ARTICLE I

Under this MOU, the Participants intend to pursue cooperation involving Iraq Ministry of Oil employees in the areas specified above through various means, which may include the following:

1. Training in Iraq in basic business skills, including business management, English language and information technology;
2. Participating in training programs offered by US Government agencies in technical matters pertaining to the Oil and Gas sector;
3. Participation in short- to medium-term training programs offered by specialized private institutions and professional organizations;
4. Long-term training at various universities in the United States for Oil and Gas specialists from the Ministry of Oil and/or for Iraqi specialists serving as instructors in Iraqi institutions of higher learning;
5. Assisting in capacity development through training, joint government-industry activities, faculty and student exchanges and tours, and exploration of ways to promote transfer of skills and technology to support human resources development, policy development, and institutional infrastructure; and
6. Such other forms of cooperation within the scope of this MOU as the Participants may mutually determine.

ARTICLE II

Each Participant intends to endeavor, through coordination with the appropriate competent authorities, to achieve the timely processing of visas and other forms of official permission for entry to and exit from its territory of personnel of the other country engaged in cooperative activities under this MOU.

ARTICLE III

- A. It is understood that this MOU does not create any legally binding obligations between the Participants.
- B. Implementation of this MOU may begin upon signature by both Participants.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA:

Alan Larson

Date: *Dec 20, 2004*

FOR THE MINISTRY OF OIL
THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ:

RAL Sant

Date: [December 20, 2004]