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FOR SECDEF FROM CPA ADMINISTRATOR BREMER

E.O.: 12958: DECLAS: 09/21/13

PREL, PGOV, PTER, MOPS, IZ

SUBJECT: DISCUSSING NATIONAL SECURITY WITH IGC PRESIDENT

Chassified by amb kennedy for Reasons 1.5 (B and D)

- 1.()SUMMARY: CPA Senior Advisor for Security Affairs Walt Slocombe and Governance Director Scott Carpenter met on October 7 with Governing Council (IGC) President Dr. Ayad Allawi to discuss the creation of a Commission on National Security to advise the IGC. Discussions were based on recommendations presented in a draft document "Iraq's Future Security: the Defence Dimension." This document was given to Dr. Allawi to review before the meeting. Iraq's national security is Dr. Allawi's top priority and he supports the creation of such a commission generally along the lines proposed in the paper. END SUMMARY.
- 2. () After initial courtesies, Dr. Allawi began the discussion by saying that he regarded this as a very important and timely subject. He supported the creation of an advisory commission but cautioned that the commission's work not overlap with that of other bodies, including the constitutional convention and, indeed, the IGC itself.
- 3. () Dr. Allawi sought to clarify the role of the Commission's participation in decision-making and its relationship to other institutions of the state in the interim and after an elected government. He viewed the





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advisory commission as having an official role beyond just analysis and the presentation of options for IGC actions.

- 4. () Dr. Allawi identified areas for further deliberation and clarification. How would the commission relate to the ministries, particularly the foreign ministry, and to the IGC? Who would the advisory commission be answerable to and what decision making authority might it have?
- 5. () It was agreed that the commission should be composed of people who were professional and independent, but Dr. Allawi thought it unrealistic to expect political parties not to be involved. We would need to decide on criteria for appointments and ensure that they were properly vetted. Although he acknowledged that it would be difficult to find nominees, he was confident of finding a dozen or so that might fit the criteria. Dr. Allawi was unsure of how long it would take to find and confirm nominees.
- 6. () The concept of the advisory commission would be introduced to the Joint Security Committee on the basis of the paper. However, Dr. Allawi thought it important to consult "one or two others," namely SCIRI and the Kurds, to ensure their buy in before the next committee meeting.
- 7. () It was agreed that Mr. Slocombe would present a revised paper to Dr. Allawi in light of this discussion as a basis for future deliberations. The paper will be presented to the Joint Security Committee in two weeks' time.
- 8. () COMMENT: Dr. Allawi has made security concerns his top priority as Governing Council president. It is important that we aim to establish this commission before the end of his presidency. Dr. Allawi is amendable to our vision, but will undoubtedly push for the commission to have more than an advisory role. END COMMENT.

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