UNAMI Newsletter

United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq

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Security Council extends mandate of UNAMI for 12 months



UN Security Council. Photo: UN

n 25 July 2012, the Security Council extended the mandate of UNAMI for another year, while also reiterating its encouragement of further progress on the country's security, humanitarian, human rights and political fronts. In a unanimously adopted resolution, the Council encouraged the Government of Iraq "to continue strengthening democracy and the rule of law, improving security and public order and combating terrorism and sectarian violence across the country," and reiterated its "support to the people and the Government of Iraq in their efforts to build a secure, stable, federal, united and democratic nation, based on the rule of law and respect for human rights."

The Council also underscored the need for all communities in Iraq to participate in the political process and an inclusive political dialogue, as well as for the communities to refrain from making statements and actions which could aggravate tensions.

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In the resolution, Council members also noted the importance of addressing humanitarian issues and stressed the need to continue to form a coordinated response to do so. In addition, it called for full unimpeded access by humanitarian personnel to all people in need of assistance.

In the area of human rights, the Council urged the Government of Iraq to continue to promote and protect human rights, and to consider additional steps to support the Independent High Commission for Human Rights in carrying out its mandate.

The Council also called on the Government to continue its ongoing cooperation with the Kuwaiti Government and to meet its outstanding international obligations on that issue.

HUMAN SECURITY

initiative, Musaib also received training on the basics of business management, bookkeeping, and financial practices.

With his new tools in hand, Musaib notified his boss Mohammed that he was planning to leave, and that he hoped to start his own restaurant nearby. Upon hearing this, Mohammed promptly asked Musaib to stay, and offered him full partnership as a co-owner of Mosul Bacha. "He said we could pool our resources, expand the menu, and double our space by taking over the store next door. It belonged to his cousin and had been vacant for some time," Musaib told us.

Musaib thought Mohammed's offer over, and decided to accept. "I figured that the equipment and training provided by IOM, in combination with the increased space and customer base, would make Mosul Bacha even more successful," Musaib said. "So we went for it."

"And thus far, business has been quite steady. We bring in about \$200/week, split everything 50/50, and have already been asked to cater a few events," he reported. "I'm hoping things will pick up even more though once the weather cools down... Pacha, tashreeb, qalya, and the other dishes we serve are more winter dishes than summer dishes."

"I am so grateful to IOM for providing me with the opportunity to pursue this dream," Musaib told us. "I am especially thankful for the financial training I was given. I knew nothing about the practicalities of running my own business before."

He continued, "Life really has improved for me over the past year. I

mean, things aren't perfect, but I have been able to make enough money to get my family out of Al Ghadir and back to our home in Mosul. Even though the city is not 100% safe, and I have to commute to Bartella for work, things are much better than they were before."

When asked if there was anything else he wanted to add, Musaib paused for a minute and then replied, "In all honesty, I just keep thinking about the other families living in that camp on the outskirts of Bartella. I am so lucky I got out of there... if there is any way you can help them to do the same, it would really change the lives of a lot of people, just like me, who are in need."

For more information, please contact IOM Iraq: iraqpublicinfo@iom.int

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Providing entrepreneurship training via e-learning

By Ygor Scarcia - UNIDO



E-learning launching ceremony in Erbil; videoconference call with UNINETTUNO University in Rome. Photo: UNIDO Iraq

A UNIDO project implemented in conjunction with UNINETTUNO, a recognized Italian online university, and funded by the Italian Cooperation for Development provides e-learning training in entrepreneurship to Iraqis with the ultimate goal of reducing poverty and creating job opportunities.

On 19 July, the project was launched at a ceremony hosted by the KRG Ministry of Trade and Industry at the Erbil Enterprise Development Center (EDC) in Erbil, with technical support from UNIDO on Enterprise Development. The event sought to promote the e-learning and Erbil EDC services to the KRG business community, civil society, local NGOs, chambers of commerce, business unions, universities and media representatives.