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## EDITORIAL

[Issue 115 – June 5, 2008](#)

NCCI WEEKLY HIGHLIGHT

**“On June 10<sup>th</sup> NCCI will be holding a General Assembly meeting. This meeting is designed for the NCCI to share with its membership the activities undertaken over the last year and plans for the future. This meeting is for the NCCI membership to work with the NCCI Team and the NCCI Executive Board.**

**This will also mark the departure of Kasra Mofarah who has been the Executive Coordinator of NCCI since January 2005 and the first meeting for H el ene Quentrec, NCCI’s new Executive Coordinator.**

**We urge all members to come and to participate in this important meeting.”**

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*Salaam,*  
NCCI Team

## HUMANITARIAN UPDATES

FROM NCCI, NGOS' REPORTS FROM THE FIELD AND UN AGENCIES

### **Operational Humanitarian Space**

- [International Compact with Iraq : EU Presidency Declaration at Annual Review Conference](#)

Source: [EU and UN](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 29, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*EU welcomes the Annual Review Conference of the International Compact with Iraq in Stockholm, Sweden on 29 May 2008. An EU member state hosting this event strongly manifests the EU's support to the partnership with the Government of Iraq and to the principles of the International Compact with Iraq and underlines the EU's clear commitment to contribute to the political and economic reconstruction of Iraq. The EU reaffirms the goal shared with the Government of Iraq of a secure, stable, democratic, prosperous and unified Iraq where human rights are respected and reiterates its commitment to the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq.*

- [Addressing Review Conference of Compact with Iraq, Secretary – General cites causes for hope in effort to overcome daunting security, political, economic changes](#)

Source: [UN](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 29, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Following is the text of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's address to the Annual Review Conference of the International Compact with Iraq in Stockholm, today, 29 May: It is an honour to be here. As Co-Chair of the International Compact with Iraq, I thank all of you for joining us for this important meeting. Your participation is a clear sign of the international community's determination to stand in solidarity with the people and Government of Iraq as they go through their challenging transition. Let me thank, in particular, the Government of Sweden for its steadfast support of the Compact process, and for its generosity in hosting this first Annual Review Conference. I am grateful to His Excellency Nouri Al-Maliki, Prime Minister of Iraq, for sharing with us the efforts of his Government to implement its commitments under the Compact. Just over a year ago, we met in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, to launch the International Compact with Iraq.*

- [New global ban on cluster bombs will save millions of young lives](#)

Source: [UN](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **June 3, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Stressing the unspeakable suffering inflicted on millions of children by the use of cluster munitions, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has lauded the recent adoption of a new global treaty banning the production, use and transfer of these deadly weapons. "This is an important treaty and UNICEF calls on all governments to sign and ratify it as quickly as possible," said the agency's Deputy Executive. Delegations from 111 States agreed on the text of the new international convention at the Diplomatic Conference on Cluster Munitions held in Dublin last month. The treaty – which will be signed in Oslo in December – has been widely hailed by UN officials, including Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who said it will "enhance the protection of civilians, strengthen human rights and improve prospects for development."*

## **Humanitarian Needs and Assistance**

### - [Sadr City Matrix](#)

Source: [UNAMI](#)

Document: **Matrix**

Date: **June 1, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Sadr city Matrix; Baghdad update.*

### - [Sadr City meeting 27 May](#)

Source: [UNAMI](#)

Document: **MoM**

Date: **May 27, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Minutes of meeting held on May 27, 2008 in Baghdad.*

### - [Sadr City weekly meeting](#)

Source: [UNAMI](#)

Document: **MoM**

Date: **June 1, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Minutes of meeting held on June 1, 2008 in Baghdad.*

### - [Interministerial Committee Sadr city](#)

Source: [UNAMI](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **June 3, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The MoDM briefed on the Municipality plan to hire 5.000 workers to carry out sanitation and other public works. At the moment about 250 workers have been hired to clean up Jamile Market area. The plan foresees more than 50 workers per sector. The Minister proposed to establish a committee to assess the activities carried out until now.*

### - [CAP meeting](#)

Source: [OCHA](#)

Document: **MoM**

Date: **May 28, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Minutes of meeting held on May 28, 2008.*

### - [Paris Declaration Mission report](#)

Source: [UNDP](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **June 1, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Recognizing the importance of a strategic realignment with the donor community within the framework of the International COMPACT, the Government of Iraq decided to join the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness on the occasion of the one year anniversary of the ICI to secure transparent, accountable, internally aligned, harmonized and results-oriented partnerships with its international partners for the duration of the ICI and beyond.*

## Human Rights and Protection

### - [Gender Task Force](#)

Source: [UNIFEM](#)

Document: [MoM](#)

Date: [June 4, 2008](#)

Access: [Members](#)

*Minutes of meeting held May 12, 2008.*

### - [Juveniles languish for months in US-run prisons in Iraq - HRW](#)

Source: [IRIN](#)

Document: [Article](#)

Date: [June 2, 2008](#)

Access: [Open](#)

*The traffic light turned to red and as cars stopped at one of Baghdad's central intersections, Haider Jassim Mohammed emerged with tissue boxes, urging drivers to buy one. Seconds later, a roadside bomb targeted a US military convoy nearby and Mohammed was arrested. "I was apprehended with seven others by American troops on suspicion of plotting the attack with insurgents and spent nearly six months in two prisons in Baghdad and Basra," Mohammed, 13, told IRIN in Baghdad*

### - [Baghdad Jews Have Become a Fearful Few](#)

Source: [New York Times](#)

Document: [Article](#)

Date: [June 1, 2008](#)

Access: [Open](#)

*Written in broken English but with perfect clarity, the message is a stark and plaintive assessment from one of the last Jews of Babylon. The community of Jews in Baghdad is now all but vanished in a land where their heritage recedes back to Abraham of Ur, to Jonah's prophesying to Nineveh, and to Nebuchadnezzar's sending Jews into exile here more than 2,500 years ago.*

### - [U.S. Remakes Jails in Iraq, but Gains Are at Risk](#)

Source: [New York Times](#)

Document: [Article](#)

Date: [June 2, 2008](#)

Access: [Open](#)

*Once a byword for torture and disgrace, the American-run detention system in [Iraq](#) has improved, even its critics say, as the military has incorporated it into a larger counterinsurgency strategy that seeks to avoid mistreatment that could create new enemies. But these gains may soon be at risk. Thousands of detainees are to be turned over to the Iraqi government, some perhaps as early as the end of the year, a further step toward Iraqi sovereignty. Yet however tarnished America's reputation may be for its treatment of detainees at Abu Ghraib and Guantánamo Bay, the reputation of many Iraqi prisons is worse.*

### - [Iraqi Mother Killed for Protesting Honor Killings](#)

Source: [Alternet](#)

Document: [Article](#)

Date: [June 2, 2008](#)

Access: [Open](#)

*Those were the fateful words of Leila Hussein, an Iraqi woman who was killed after telling her family's story to The Observer, after her husband and sons murdered their 17-year-old daughter/sister for striking up a friendship with a British soldier—a murder to which her husband confessed, but for which he has faced no charges and has been congratulated by police.*

## Health

### - [Health Sector Outcome Team](#)

Source: [UNWHO](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **June 1, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*April progress report Health Sector Outcome Team.*

## IDPs

### - [IOM Emergency needs assessment](#)

Source: [UNHCR](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **June 1, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Following the February 2006 bombing of the Samarra Al-Askari Mosque, escalating sectarian violence in Iraq caused massive displacement, both internal and to locations abroad. In coordination with the Iraqi government's Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM), IOM continues to assess Iraqi displacement through a network of partners and monitors on the ground. Most displacement over the past five years (since 2003) occurred in 2006 and has since slowed. However, displacement continues to occur in some locations and the humanitarian situation of those already displaced is worsening. Some Iraqis are returning, but their conditions in places of return are extremely difficult.*

## Refugees

### - [UNCR Inter Agency meeting](#)

Source: [UNHCR](#)

Document: **MoM**

Date: **June 1, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Minutes of meeting held on June 1, 2008.*

### - [Feili Kurds in Iran seek way out of identity impasse](#)

Source: [UNHCR](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 28, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*They were expelled from Iraq nearly 30 years ago, accused of not being Iraqi. After decades of exile in Iran, it seems like thousands of Feili Kurds now have a chance to return home and restore their Iraqi nationality. But not everyone is convinced. "We are like ice thrown out to melt in the sun. Everyone knows that we have been oppressed, but the world is not paying attention," complained Jasim Kurt Feili, a representative of the Feili Kurd community in Jahrom camp in Iran's southern province of Fars.*

### - [Government incentives for IDPs, refugees to return](#)

Source: [IRIN](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **June 3, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The Iraqi government has allotted US\$195 million to encourage internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees to return to their homes, the Migration and Displacement Ministry said. The amount - the largest government budget to tackle displacement - "will cover the travel expenses for those who are outside Iraq, financial aid, compensations for those whose properties suffered damages during their absence and will establish also two main offices in Baghdad to receive the returnees' applications", the Ministry said in a statement on 1 June.*

- ["I pour water into my baby's formula to make it last longer" - The daily struggle of an ordinary refugee family from Iraq](#)

Source: [IRIN](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **June 3, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*"To go back? It's not an option for us. I would be scared to death for my children. It was hard to leave, but we couldn't stay there any longer. And surely we do not want to return to Iraq". For Inas A. (her last name is not revealed for security reasons), as for many others, the choices are limited. But instead of facing life in Baghdad again, she'd rather keep her shabby one-room place in Saideh Zeinab, shared with her three children and her invalid husband.*

## Education

- [Education Sector Outcome Team - progress report](#)

- [Sadr city Psychosocial report](#)

Source: [UNICEF](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **May 28, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Education Sector Sub groups composition June, 4; 2008; Education Sector progress report may 2008; Minutes of Education Sector Outcome Team meeting May 26, 2008.*

- [Girls Denied Education](#)

Source: [IWPR](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **June 2, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Parents concerned about militia violence are pulling their daughters out of school. By Samah Samad in Kirkuk (ICR No. 260, 30-May-08) Thirteen-year-old Huda Ahmed's world was turned upside down when her classmate was kidnapped two years ago. The girl was snatched by armed men on her way to school in Kirkuk, and was only released three days later when her family paid 40,000 US dollars in ransom. Fearing harm may come to their only daughter, Huda's parents pulled her out of school. Often depressed, she now spends her days cleaning the house and watching television when there's electricity. Huda envies her classmates and two brothers, who still attend school, and says she is deeply conflicted about her parents' decision. She calls it "an ugly crime perpetrated against me", although in the next breath, says she understands her parents' logic. "I'll go back to school the first chance I get, but for the time being I will respect my parents' decision," said Huda.*

## WatSan

- [Sarchinar Project – concept note – June 2008](#)

- [Programme concept note](#)

Source: [UNICEF](#)

Document: **Project concept and budget**

Date: **May 21, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Project concept note – Sarchinar project June 2008; Budget Sarchinar project June 2008.*

## IRAQ CONTEXT

### **General Overview**

#### - [Iraq Crisis Report \(IraqHAR\)](#)

Source: [Centre of Excellence on Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance](#)

Document: **Weekly report**

Date: **June 5, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Political: The US Senate on Thursday (May 22) approved an additional US\$165 billion to wage war in Iraq and Afghanistan for another year after lawmakers blocked proposed timetables for withdrawing American troops from Iraq. A vote of 70-26 allowed the Senate to pass the new war money the Pentagon says it urgently needs to avoid civilian layoffs and the interruption of soldiers' paychecks within months. Last week, the House of Representatives passed a drastically different bill that failed to provide any new money for the wars and would withdraw US combat troops from Iraq by the end of 2009. If lawmakers give President Bush all the war funds he has requested, Congress will have appropriated more than US\$800 billion for combat in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001. (Reuters, May-22)*

#### - [Juan Cole's informed comment's excerpt](#)

Source: [Informed Comment – Juan Cole's Web Blog.](#)

Document: **Selection of daily comments**

Date: **May 29 - June 5, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Juan Cole is a Professor of Modern Middle East and South Asian History at the University of Michigan. As such he brings daily much needed expertise and historical perspective to issues surrounding Iraq, Afghanistan and the Middle East. Good reading to have a weekly review of the Iraq daily situation.*

### **Iraqi Living Conditions**

#### - [Iraq operation gives Basra a reprieve](#)

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 31, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The cornice buzzes at night: drivers honking to friends on the sidewalk, teenagers joy-riding rickety motorboats along the murky Shatt al Arab, families lining up for rides on the yellow-lit Ferris wheel. Mazen Abdul Kareem gazes at the water, remembering when the gunmen trawled the boardwalk in their tinted-window Toyotas. Even then, he would come, just looking out where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers merge and flow into the Persian Gulf, wondering whether his time was near. There were too many victims. Doctors. Professors. Women. Students. Musicians.*

#### - [Iraq's Real Death Toll "Above Highest Estimates"](#)

Source: [Altrnet](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **June 3, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*A study by doctors from the Johns Hopkins School of Health in conjunction with Iraqi doctors from al-Mustanceriya University in Baghdad, published in the British medical journal The Lancet in October 2006, estimated the number of excess deaths as a result of the occupation at above 655,000. Just Foreign Policy, an independent organization "dedicated to reforming U.S. foreign policy" offered an updated total of 1,213,716 at the time of this writing.*

## **Violence and (Un-) security**

### **[Rogue Sadr militias roam Baghdad](#)**

Source: [CSMonitor](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **June 30, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Nadir Hamid Shamkhi has not stepped outside since March 24, when she retrieved her kidnapped husband's tortured body from a Baghdad morgue, buried him, and fled to her relatives' house in Risala – a slum in southwestern Baghdad. Ms. Shamkhi is counting on the black Shiite flag that flies from her sanctuary's roof to protect her from the militants. But she is not certain it will. Too afraid of being recognized in the streets by members of the Shiite militia that killed her husband, she hasn't even filed a claim with the government to receive the \$1,800 compensation for his death.*

### **[Depleted Uranium has Destroyed the Genetic Future of Iraq](#)**

Source: [War in Iraq](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 30, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*It's not just the U.S. military, and it's not just Iraq. The U.K. has also used depleted uranium in both Iraq and Afghanistan; NATO forces have used it in Kosovo, and Israel allegedly used it in Lebanon and on the Palestinians. The use of depleted uranium (DU) munitions by the U.S. military may lead to a death toll far higher than that from the nuclear bombs dropped at the end of World War II. A waste product from the enrichment of uranium, DU, contains nearly one-third the radioactive isotopes of uranium that occurs naturally. DU is generally used in armor-piercing ammunition; despite its classification as a weapon of mass destruction, and subsequent banning by the United Nations.*

### **[Explosions, clashes in northern Iraq amid UN conference](#)**

Source: [DPA](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 29, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*At least 33 people were killed and some 40 others injured in fresh violence in Iraq's restive northern provinces Thursday, while the US military announced that 4,000 of its troops in Iraq would return home in June. The violence came as Iraq received a vote of confidence Thursday for its efforts to promote security for its citizens by almost 100 countries and organizations gathered for a one-day UN-Iraq summit in Sweden.*

### **[Suicide bombers target Iraqi police](#)**

Source: [Al Jazeera](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 29, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*At least 18 people have been killed in two attacks targeting police in northern Iraq, prompting the sacking of a senior police officer. A suicide bomber detonated his explosives at a police recruitment centre in Sinjar city, 100km west of Mosul, on Thursday, killing 16 people - mostly recruits - and wounding 18 others.*

### **[Nine policemen killed in suicide bombing in W Iraq](#)**

Source: [Hinhua](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 31, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Nine policemen were killed and seven others wounded when a suicide bomber struck their checkpoint in western Iraq on Saturday night, a local police source said. A suicide bomber blew up his explosive vest at about 9 p.m. (1800 GMT) at the checkpoint in the town of Hit, some 160 km west of Baghdad, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.*

## Reconstruction

### - [The privatization of Iraq's oil sector](#)

Source: [Niqash](#)

Document: Article (English and Arabic)

Date: May 28, 2008

Access: Open

*In today's Iraq, a country floating over a river of "black gold", complaints of fuel shortages are always heard. Officials at the ministry of oil are incapable of convincing citizens that this river is locked under the ground waiting for investment to pay the costs of digging, extraction, transportation and refining, not to mention inadequate security conditions preventing progress.*

### - [International Advisory and Monitoring Board on the Development Fund for Iraq](#)

Source: [Internationally Advisory and Monitoring Board for Iraq](#)

Document: Article

Date: June 2, 2008

Access: Open

*The International Advisory and Monitoring Board (IAMB) of the Development Fund for Iraq (DFI) met in Kuwait on May 12-13, 2008 and issued the following statement: "The IAMB met to continue its oversight role over the use of resources of the DFI, which is the principal repository for Iraq's oil-export receipts, and oversee audits of the DFI in line with its mandate under UN Security Council Resolution 1790. "The IAMB considered the results of the 2007 audit of the DFI. The audit highlights key issues of concern regarding weaknesses in controls over oil extraction and use of the resources, including: (i) slow progress in installing oil metering, (ii) incomplete accounting records of the DFI, (iii) direct deposit of oil revenue of \$849 million in SOMO bank accounts instead of the DFI, and (iv) uncertainties about remaining contractual commitments entered by the former Coalition Provisional Authority.*

## Iraqi Political process

### - [Government of Iraq - Organogram](#)

Source: [OCHA](#)

Document: Article

Date: May 31, 2008

Access: Open

Government of Iraq - Organogram

## Rule of Law

### - [Iraq's KRG to create new Energy Ministry. Hawrami to head](#)

Source: [UPI](#)

Document: Article

Date: May 30, 2008

Access: Open

*Iraqi Kurdistan's ministries of Electricity and Natural Resources are to be merged, and current oil chief Ashti Hawrami is likely to be named minister. Sources here told United Press International that Hawrami is the front-runner for the soon-to-be-established post of KRG minister of energy. Hawrami, currently minister of natural resources where the hydrocarbons portfolio falls, negotiated and signed nearly all the dozens of deals the KRG has inked with international oil firms to explore for and produce oil and gas.*

## **Policies and Strategies**

### - [Australia withdraws troops from Iraq](#)

Source: [Alternet](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **June 1, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*About 500 Australian combat troops pulled out of their base in southern Iraq on Sunday, fulfilling an election promise by Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd to bring the soldiers home this year.*

*A spokesman for Australian Defence Minister Joel Fitzgibbon said in the Australian capital Canberra the withdrawal from Talil base in Nassiriya, 300 km (185 miles) southeast of Baghdad, was under way.*

### - [Invitation to Steal: War Profiteering in Iraq](#)

Source: [Foreign Policy](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 28, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The heavy reliance on private contractors to do everything from serving meals and doing laundry to protecting oil pipelines and interrogating prisoners has been a major factor in the immense costs of the Iraq war. By one measure, there may be more employees of private firms and their subcontractors on the ground in Iraq than there are U.S. military personnel. One of the main rationales for using private companies to carry out functions formerly done by uniformed military personnel – a practice that has been on the rise since then Defense Secretary Dick Cheney commissioned a study that led to the contracting out of all Army logistics work to Halliburton in the 1990s – was that it would save money. But in Iraq, the combination of greedy contractors and lax government oversight has resulted in exorbitant costs, many of them for projects that were never completed.*

### - [Dissent arises over Iraq cease-fire](#)

Source: [World and Nation](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 30, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*An angry Shiite militia commander complained yesterday "we were duped" into accepting a cease-fire in Sadr City - remarks that pointed to a potentially damaging rift within the movement of radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. The May 11 truce ended seven weeks of fierce fighting in Baghdad between U.S. and Iraqi government forces and Sadr's Mahdi Army militia, which held nearly complete control of the capital's sprawling Sadr City district. Iraqi soldiers now have moved into most parts of Sadr City with little resistance. But the objections raised by the commander highlight apparent dissent by some Mahdi Army leaders. A split among Sadr's followers - between those favoring a more militant path and others seeking compromise with Iraq's government - could threaten the relative calm in Baghdad and reignite Shiite-on-Shiite violence across Iraq's oil-rich south.*

### - [Australia ends combat role in southern Iraq](#)

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **June 3, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Australian troops ended their main combat mission in Iraq on Sunday, handing over their responsibilities in southern Iraq to U.S. forces. An estimated 550 Australian troops, who served in a training and backup role to Iraqi forces in the provinces of Dhi Qar and Muthanna, made the transfer in a ceremony at Camp Talil outside Nasiriya, said Capt. Chris Ford, a British military spokesman in southern Iraq.*

### - [US paying allies to fight war in Iraq](#)

Source: [The Times of India](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 31, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The tale of massive fraud and embezzlement of millions of dollars by the US military in its operations in Iraq continues. Testifying before the US Congress Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on 22 May,*

Mary Ugone, deputy inspector general of accounts in the Pentagon said that an audit of \$8.2 billion spending related to the Iraq war showed that \$7.8 billion had been improperly spent.

- [Daughters of Iraq: Women take on a security role](#)

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **June 4, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The two women couldn't be less alike: Melath Dulaimi is a single woman in her mid-30s who wears a knee-length skirt, strappy sandals and refuses to cover her hair. Lekaa Mohammed is a retiring widow draped in a navy blue veil and concealing robes. But when the U.S. military advertised for women to join its neighborhood guard program last fall, both answered the call.*

## Iraq and International policies

- [New hope for Iraq after years of war, Secretary – General tells Compact meeting](#)

Source: [UN](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 29, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Iraq is making "notable progress" in the security, political and economic fields, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon **told** the annual review conference of the International Compact with Iraq today. "If I were asked to use one word to describe the situation in Iraq today, I would choose the word 'hope,'" Mr. Ban said, speaking in Stockholm to the meeting on the Compact, the five-year plan to promote peace and development in the strife-torn country.*

- [The Stockholm Conference and Conditionality in Iraq](#)

Source: [Historiae](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 28, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*As international experts prepare for the 29 May conference in Stockholm on development aid and debt relief for Iraq under the Iraq Compact scheme, the picture of US policy-making in this area is depressing. Despite a declared intention of pursuing a unifying policy, through its peculiar choice of Iraqi allies the Bush administration is in fact contributing to fragmentation. Whereas the formula of a tripartite federal state based on "Shiite", "Sunni" and "Kurdish" regions enjoys only limited popular support in Iraq outside Kurdistan, it is being pursued very determinedly by Washington's Iraqi partners: the two biggest Kurdish parties (KDP and PUK) and the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq (ISCI) – the only Shiite party that supports a federal arrangement based on sectarian identities, and also historically the Shiite party with the closest and most long-standing ties to Iran.*

## HUMANITARIAN WORLD PERSPECTIVES & QUALITY OF AID

- [World Bank launches \\$1.2 billion fast-track facility for food crisis](#)

Source: [World Bank](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **May 29, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The World Bank Group announced today it would support global efforts to overcome the global food crisis with a new \$1.2 billion rapid financing facility to address immediate needs, including \$200 million in grants targeted at the vulnerable in the world's poorest countries. Announcing several measures to address immediate to longer-term food challenges, the World Bank Group said it would boost its overall support for global agriculture and food to \$6 billion next year up from \$4 billion, and would launch risk management tools, and crop insurance to protect poor countries and small-hold.*

## This Page is your page

If you have an announcement (training, workshop, etc) regarding your organisation, if you are aware about meetings, events, humanitarian update, if you would like to make known some information, please send them to [webmanager@ncciraq.org](mailto:webmanager@ncciraq.org)

## Weekly Schedule

We encourage you to check regularly our Weekly Schedule on our [Website](#) for updates. We have added on our [weekly schedule](#) some events hold in Iraq or Jordan that concern only specific invited people. They are highlighted as "restricted". This is to give better information on what is going on to our members.

## Upcoming important dates

June-17 / Jumaada al-awal-13

Death of Fatima Bint Hizzam (2nd wife of Ali)

## Updates & Announcements

*We would like to announce that the NCCI General Assembly session will take place on June 10, 2008.*

*WASH workshop for NGOs implementing in Iraq is taking place in Amman. All info related to this workshop you can check it [here](#).*

*Within the Developmental framework of UNDP along with funding from Government of Japan, UNDP Iraq is conducting Rehabilitation projects for both Ramadi and Takrit General Hospitals in Iraq. Terms related to this Call for proposal can be found [here](#).*

*UPP, MDM- F and ICS opened new [vacancies](#).*

***PLEASE NOTE THAT NEXT WEEK NCCI WEEKLY HIGHLIGHT WILL NOT BE ISSUED DUE TO TECHICAL ISSUES!***