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SECURITY COUNCIL PRESS STATEMENT ON NEW IRAQI GOVERNMENT FORMATION

The following Security Council press statement was issued today by Council President Susan Rice (United States):

The members of the Security Council welcome the formation of a new representative national partnership Government, as approved by Iraq's Council of Representatives on 21 December. This decision reflects the will of the Iraqi people as displayed by the parliamentary election of 7 March 2010. The members of the Security Council encourage its leaders to continue to pursue a federal, democratic, pluralistic and unified Iraq based on the rule of law and respect for human rights.

The members of the Security Council welcome the inclusive political process and representative outcome and encourage Iraq's leaders to rededicate themselves to the pursuit of national reconciliation.

The members of the Security Council reaffirm their commitment to the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq, and emphasize the importance of the stability and security of Iraq for its people, the region and the international community.

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