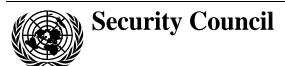
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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4930th meeting of the Security Council, held on 24 March 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation between Iraq and Kuwait", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the Secretary-General's letter dated 18 March and the exchange of letters with Dr. Bahr Al-Uloom, Interim President of the Iraqi Governing Council for the month of March 2004 and Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III, Administrator, Coalition Provisional Authority (S/2004/225).

"The Security Council also welcomes and strongly supports the Secretary-General's decision to dispatch to Iraq his Special Adviser, Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi and his team, as well as an electoral assistance team, as soon as possible, in order to lend assistance and advice to the Iraqi people in the formation of an interim Iraqi government to which sovereignty will be transferred on 30 June 2004, as well as in the preparations for direct elections to be held before the end of January 2005.

"The Security Council calls on all parties in Iraq to cooperate fully with these United Nations teams, and welcomes the security and other support provided to them by the Iraqi Governing Council and the CPA."

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