

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Iraq to the United
Nations



ممثلية جمهورية العراق الدائمة لدى
الامم المتحدة

**Right of reply statement
Delivered by Iraqi delegation**

**On the EU statement
Before the Third Committee**

**Item 70: Promotion and Protection of Human
Rights**

**New York
24/10/2007**

Mr. Chairman,

With regard to the statement presented by the distinguished permanent representative of Portugal on behalf of EU this morning under agenda item 70 promotions and protection of human rights, my delegation would like to make the following remarks:

The Iraqi government shares the concerns expressed in the statement with regard to the human rights in Iraq and Iraqi refugees as we also share the concern about the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Iraq due to the flow of refugees to neighboring countries and the internal displacement of people escaping terrorist, militia, and criminal activities.

The Iraqi government has been working hard to fulfill its responsibilities in this regard and is working to create suitable conditions for the return of refugees and internally displaced individuals to their homes through confronting illegal activists, regardless of their sectarian or political affiliation. The improvement of the security situation in several of the unstable areas has contributed to the return of a large number of families to their homes. However, the problem continues and requires the support and large contributions from friendly countries which are concerned about the humanitarian conditions of Iraqi refugees and concerned international organizations, foremost among which are the UN High Commission for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration, the International Health Organization, UNICEF, and UNESCO. These organization need to assist both the refugees and the host countries, and the Iraqi government has also pledged to offer its assistance to those countries.

Mr. Chairman,

Regarding human rights, the main challenge for the Iraqi people is the terrorist activities and crimes which target innocent civilians.

And as the Secretary-General indicated in his most recent report to the Security Council (S/2007/608) pursuant to SC resolution 1770 (2007) there are positive signals on the cooperation of the Iraqi Government and the authorities of Iraqi Kurdistan region with the United Nations human rights officials.

The Iraqi government's invitation to the Special Raporteur of the Human Rights Council on Torture and other Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment, comes from the firm belief of the Iraqi government to improve and promote human rights situation in Iraq and to fight against impunity.

And thank you Mr. Chairman