Forum: Security Council Issue: Ensuring the effective liquidation of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) Student Officer: Filippos Moysidis Position: Deputy President

Personal Introduction

Dear Delegates,

My name is Filippos Moysidis, I am a 15-year-old student at the German School of Athens, currently attending the tenth grade and this year, I have the honor of serving as the Deputy President of the Security Council at the 8th AGCMUN conference. This will be my third time chairing at an MUN conference, and I am extremely grateful for this opportunity.

Moving on, I would like to congratulate you on your forthcoming participation in ACGMUN, themed "Balancing Infinite Opportunities", and thus urge you to prepare well and enjoy the debate process of the conference. This conference is an outstanding opportunity to expand your knowledge and experience while having an unforgettable three days, so I advise you to make the most of it.

The previous school year of 2023-2024 was my second year of faithfully attending MUN. I decided to first take part in my school's MUN club when I was an eighth grader and was immediately astonished by the world of MUN and debate. The one thing that stuck out to me were my first Student Officers. Although I couldn't understand how they could work so well together, they made me realize how MUN can help me improve my team dynamic and social skills, which I will surely need in the future. Their kindness, assertiveness, and resilience still accompany my MUN career, as I am trying to gain these qualities as well.

The following study guide will provide you with a general overview of the topic and essential details for comprehending it and grasping its significance. However, aside from this guide, you should conduct your own additional research to gather information on the topic relevant to your country's stance on it. Should you have any questions, concerns, or any further clarification, do not hesitate to contact me at: filipposmoysidis@icloud.com. I am truly looking forward to meeting you all!

Topic Introduction

Since its establishment in 2003, United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) has played an important role in Iraq's post-conflict recovery, under Resolution 1500¹ of the UN Security Council. Such a mandate would include a change in politics, mediation, enforcement of rights, and finally, preparation for elections that should have a positive impact on stability, governance, and preparations for the long-term reconstruction of Iraq. With the mandate for liquidation now extended, ending December 31, 2025, priority goes to ensuring that all acts of withdrawal are satisfactorily and comprehensively affected while protecting the integrity and legacy of the mission.

The resolution calls for the UN Secretary-General to work closely with Iraq's government to develop a phased transition and liquidation plan. This plan emphasizes the orderly drawdown of personnel, the safe disposal or repurposing of assets, and the transfer of UNAMI's remaining responsibilities to Iraqi institutions or relevant UN agencies. Maintaining the momentum on critical issues, such as technical electoral support, human rights, and women's political participation, will be pivotal during this period to ensure that the progress achieved by UNAMI is not lost. In terms of so much of this enhancement, political stability, inclusive governance, and strengthening the voices of all citizens are crucial for future Iraqi development and continued capabilities in facing future challenges alone.

Successful liquidation calls for addressing a number of intertwined aspects: firstly, administrative challenges regarding asset transfers and staff redeployment must be dealt with in a prudent way to avoid disruptions. Secondly, the closure of UNAMI should be made congruent with the continuity of programs regarding Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)², regional stability, and reconciliation of the questions between Iraq and Kuwait regarding missing persons and the return of archives. Third, the Iraqi government and international partners will need to work closely together if progress in political stability, governance reforms, and economic recovery is to be sustained.

The withdrawal of UNAMI also reflects Iraq's preparedness for more sovereignty over its national development and governance. As much as this marks the culmination of more than two decades of UN

¹United Nations. "S/Res/1500(2003)." Undocs.org, 2024,

https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n03/467/78/pdf/n0346778.pdf

² UNHCR. "Internally Displaced People." *UNHCR*, 2024, <u>www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/who-we-protect/internally-displaced-people</u>

support, this is also an opportunity that opens up for Iraq to strengthen its institutions and to take the lead in shaping its future. It requires, therefore, concerted efforts on the part of the UN, Iraq, and the international community to ensure risk mitigation, avoid security gaps, and manage the transition of responsibilities smoothly in the fulfillment of the UNAMI mandate.

The completion of UNAMI's liquidation refers to the challenge that most international organizations face, which is always on the one hand, tremendous potentiality and on the other, very limited resources. Iraq is at a crossroads where there are endless possibilities for growth, development, and leadership in this region. It, however, requires prioritization, proper management of the resources available, and having strong institutions for realizing those opportunities. The transition presents Iraq with a chance to capture its potential while ensuring that such potentials are coupled with realistic and sustainable plans for the future.

Definition of Key Terms

Mandate

"The authority given to an elected group of people, such as a government, to perform an action or govern a country"³

Liquidation

In this context, liquidation means an orderly closure of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), meaning putting an end to its operations, transferring responsibilities to the Iraqi government or other entities, managing the withdrawal of staff, and disposal or reallocation of assets.

Drawdown

"A planned reduction in the number of personnel in an area"⁴

³ Cambridge University. "MANDATE | Meaning in the Cambridge English Dictionary." *Dictionary.cambridge.org*, <u>dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/mandate</u>.

⁴ Cambridge Dictionary. "Drawdown." CambridgeWords, 22 Jan. 2025,

dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/drawdown. Accessed 29 Jan. 2025.

Pierce – The American College of Greece Model United Nations | 2025 Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's)⁵

"Internally displaced people (IDPs) have been forced to flee their homes by conflict, violence, persecution or disasters, however, unlike refugees, they remain within their own country."

Governance reforms⁶

"Reforms and governance are the arts and the science of administration and politics which correspond to administrative reform, functionally, deal with reorganization and change in the affairs of institutionally arranged governmental apparatus of a nation state for "crisis management," and ultimately achieve overall "national development.""

Sovereignty⁷

"the power of a country to control its own government"

Background Information

Establishment and Mandate of UNAMI

Along with the passing of Security Council Resolution 1500 on August 14, 2003, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) was initiated, just some days after the invasion of Iraq by the United States and the overthrow of Saddam Hussein. The key aim was to aid Iraq in transitioning towards a democratic system including the establishment of democratic governance rule of law and the protection of human rights. Therefore, with the fall of the Hussein regime, the country found itself in an unprecedented power vacuum and in urgent trouble demanding international support. It was clear that even for political and security future of Iraq, considerable dependence would be placed on the attention and help that it received during this difficult transition.

Initially modest in scope, the UNAMI mandate later expanded beyond the provision of technical and advisory support at the level of constitutional development and elections. But as instability within

⁵ UNHCR. "Internally Displaced People." *UNHCR*, 2024, <u>www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/who-we-protect/internally-displaced-people</u>.

⁶ Azizuddin, Muhammad. "Reforms and Governance." *Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance*, 2016, pp. 1–5, <u>https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-31816-5_1853-1</u>.

⁷Cambridge Dictionary . "SOVEREIGNTY | Meaning in the Cambridge English Dictionary." Cambridge.org, 2019, <u>dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/sovereignty</u>.

Iraq worsened, fueled by insurgent violence and separatist fighting, this role increased within the mission. In 2007, Security Council Resolution 1770 broadened UNAMI's mandate to encompass mediating political disputes, supporting electoral processes, and providing humanitarian assistance within Iraq. This development has also reflected the changing profile of the mission in regard to the needs of Iraq and indicated that UN support in addressing political divisions and humanitarian crises would require a better engagement and approach.

UNAMI's mandate changes every year to reflect this ongoing process of restoration within the complexity of Iraq. Over time, this mission also came to address issues like national reconciliation, reforms, and human rights issues into focus with regards to the protection of minorities and displaced populations-particularly important during such a time as that of stabilizing the country, having some measure of political cohesion during widespread instability. All these activities were important for stabilizing Iraq and creating paths for political cohesion at such a time of widespread instability. Although limited through the security challenges, this mission has helped Iraq in its progress toward developing institutions on its way to managing its affairs independently.

Two decades after the United Nations Security Council established the mission, in 2024, it determined to transform the mission into its final stage. By Resolution 2732 of May 2024, this would include a gradual conclusion of the United Nations Assistance Mission to Iraq (UNAMI) presence to ensure that by 2025, it would be in accordance with the significant progress made by Iraq. In so doing, the Security Council was indicating that sufficient stability had now been achieved in Iraq for the country to take greater responsibility for its own governance, while still being afforded the opportunity to continue working with the United Nations on future developmental and humanitarian projects.

Historical Context in Iraq

As far back in history as necessary, Iraq has a historical background for need of UNAMI. One dramatic event happened at the time of the US invasion of Iraq in 2003, when it led to the removal of Saddam Hussein from power and the eventual dissolution of the whole Iraqi state that was united under decades of centralized authoritarian rule. This led to the creation of a vacuum that left the country exposed to violent insurgencies, sectarian conflict, and a breeding ground for extremist groups, with Iraq being plunged into a long spell of instability. Initial hopes of an emerging peaceful and democratic Iraq were completely scattered by this. Ergo international consultations were activated to open doors toward a needed stabilizing construction in Iraq.

Fallen and shredded infrastructure, an irretrievably broken political system, and a shattered society pervasively divided between ethnic and sectarian affiliations comprised the damage left by the invasion. Arguably, the most serious issue, however, was the displacement of millions of Iraqi civilians due to violence and forced flight from their homes. The economy was also plummeting to unprecedented levels-freefalling into ashes, and oil production, the major source financially propelling the nation, was at a near standstill. Certainly, huge pressures mounted on the Iraqi government and countries that had an international common cause, which required coordinated efforts for managing the crisis and hiving off essential relief to affected peoples.

The situation was between 2014 and 2017, at which time ISIS had established itself as a major terrorist threat in Iraq. It was quick, however, in taking large parts of the country, including the city of Mosul. Its occupation threatened not only physical security but even increased sectarian tensions, contributing to further divisions among the population. To deal with this challenge, the rise of ISIS needed international military intervention, particularly in the context of the US-led coalition, to help Iraq recover territories under such occupation. In the end, however, the fight against ISIS has left Iraq devastated in a state where most of its infrastructure was destroyed, while millions of its citizens were displaced or severely affected by the violence.

Post defeat and the fall of ISIS over Iraq, it is like entering a very long phase of healing and rebuilding for the country. However, the healing has not been a smooth passage, given the problems encountered along the way. A divided and fragmented political system within Iraq does not reach agreement between various factions or departments at the central government level. Corruption and inefficiency in government institutions further slow the efforts to rebuilding the nation. In this complex environment, UNAMI played a major role in the support of Iraq's development through its capacities to give expertise and engage in dialogue, coordination of efforts for support to allow Iraq to capitalize on addressing humanitarian, economic, and political challenges.

UNAMI's Key Achievements and Contributions

For nearly two decades since its presence in Iraq, UNAMI has made significant efforts to recovering and developing Iraq. One of its remarkable achievements is the provision of the electoral process to Iraq. To support the national elections, UNAMI offered technical assistance by training electoral officials, giving advice on voter registration, and guidance on the election law. The mission worked towards marking an inclusive and transparent elections that would ultimately prepare them for

the establishment of a representative government. These efforts were mainly about ensuring that marginalized groups like woman and ethnic minorities get a voice in the political process.

The most important contribution of UNAMI, however, has been in the field of human rights. The mission continually monitored the human rights situations in Iraq and published reports giving of the emerging abuses such as arbitrary detentions, torture, or attacks of civilians. It worked with the Government of Iraq to promote the best four fundamental rights and encouraged reforms of existing laws toward greater accountability and justice for victims of abuses. The mission also played a vital role in advancing the rights of vulnerable populations such as internally displaced persons and religious minorities who have dealt with violent activities for over several decades.

Also noteworthy of UNAMI's contributions to the country was the extension of its mandate into advancing national reconciliation in Iraq. After such endless years of sectarian violence, there was finally an end to this game and the healing and rebuilding of trust among all the diverse ethnic and religious communities comprising Iraq. UNAMI operated facilitative platforms for dialogues between disgruntled political groups and fragmented ethnic factions, creating a favorable ground for national cohesion. Also, it supported the reintegration of internally displaced people by constructing houses and infrastructural renovations in war-torn areas so that families can return.

Moreover, it was in support of the long-term development objectives of Iraq, responding to the economic challenges posed by climate change, public health, and education. Through the mission, Iraq has been embarked on establishing advancements in economic diversification, through broad-based policy discussions to reduce the oil revenue dependency on the economy. Further, it assisted in improving public services, especially in healthcare and education, which suffered from a significant deficit in these areas. In these ways, UNAMI's benefits were not only immediate relief but also preparatory for the long-term future in which Iraq could develop sustainably.

Challenges Faced by UNAMI

During the entire period of its commission, UNAMI faced an array of challenges that could suggest that the environment was both harsh and unstable in which it was operating. Probably, the most pressing issue was security threat. It was a constant high-risk operating environment for UNAMI staff on account of violence, insurgencies, and terrorist activities. Various criteria, including bombings,

targeted assassinations, and other violent events, restricted UNAMI personnel from fulfilling their duties safely. The mission's operations were, therefore, frequently affected due to the issues of security. Under most cases, UNAMI staff members had to operate under very restricted conditions which would not allow them to interact fully with local communities and political leaders.

UNAMI had other executive challenges, which included security concerns, it had to confront political instability encumbering Iraq as a nation. A fragmented political landscape consisting of sectarian divisions, rival factions, and competing interests, tends to make it hard to implement policies. Negotiating between different political and ethnic groups was a constant challenge, and the lack of consent on many occasions put important reforms on hold or stalled them altogether. It required much act of patience and prolonged diplomacy to negotiate this complex political terrain, even for UNAMI to manage a mediation process with stakeholders working together.

One of the major challenges was that corruption and inefficiency dominated the governance system of Iraq. Although the Iraq government had adopted some economic reforms, one of the problems with the state institutions is that they do not provide services to the population. This problem stalled the activities of rebuilding infrastructure, economic diversification, and improving governance in Iraq. Then, it would also make public confidence in government institutions decrease.

It conditioned the United Nations in Iraq from the beginning of its mission. Iraq is a country that needs humanitarian assistance, infrastructure rebuilding, and political support, which are far above what UNAMI could afford. That put UNAMI in a position where it often had serious limitations in carrying out the mandate given to it. Financial problems and logistical problems always delayed programs and impeded the mission's activities as it endeavored to meet the most urgent needs of Iraq. Nevertheless, UNAMI's discouraging persistence and flexibility counted much in supporting the country in its revival and development.

What are the main reasons for the liquidation of UNAMI

The liquidating step of UNAMI is greatly influenced by the stabilization of Iraq, increased stability in the country regarding human livelihoods, and high self-sufficiency. It has done quite a good job by holding regular elections over the last twenty years along with strengthening its internal governance institutions self-competently managing internal affairs by an Iraqi population. The presence of gradual

improvements in the country, accompanied by the reduced intensity of the armed conflict in recent years, has left the country able to stand on its own feet. Therefore, moving into it and out of the functions that were being performed by UNAMI logically follows when the Security Council of the United Nations recognized the time has come to start transitioning to the Iraqi authorities.

Besides, the other compelling reason for closing UNAMI is changing priorities of the international community. What will happen is that as Iraq becomes stable, international resources and attention will be diverted to other global priority issues. Thus, this year the focus of the UN activities in Iraq has also changed, now focusing more on development and humanitarian efforts rather than political stabilization and mediation. This dynamic changes show how the UN in general wants to shift its missions with the changing needs of the countries emerging from post conflict situations.

Also, the request by the Iraqi government to reduce UN operations activities in Iraq has been the major driving force for the decision to terminate the mandate of UNAMI. The leadership of Iraq has thus spoken to exercise greater self-governance over its internal affairs, which signified that not the same level of assistance as previously availed by the UN mission would be needed. That request, legitimized together with the continuing healing process opened up grounds for Iraq taking over bigger responsibilities for what the mission was there to deal with.

Finally, the objectives of the transition include the continuation of partnerships between Iraq and the UN on a narrower basis. That is, Iraq will continue enjoying UN development programs and humanitarian support, while the need for a large mission like UNAMI will no longer be required. The transition towards a smaller and more focused UN presence shows that such presence will gradually reflect the changing needs of Iraq and the country's onward pathway to an increasingly stable and self-sufficient future.

Major Countries and Organizations Involved

France

France has consistently supported UNAMI, citing its active role in stabilizing the political environment and enabling reconstruction activities in Iraq. The government has also always called for the implementation of UNAMI's mandate with total respect for the sovereignty of Iraq and relied on the close effects of international support in the great house of Iraq towards its recovery.

From practical measures, France has also extended its support beyond diplomacy to the electoral process in Iraq. In 2021, France was responsible for allocating €500,000 towards a UN-managed project for the observation of Iraq's elections for the Council of Representatives, which would allow UN electoral observers to be present in Iraq pursuant to Security Council Resolution 2576.

Military cooperation with Iraq pertains to French counter-terrorism efforts and arms to improve security capabilities in the country. This is all part of the larger strategy by France to add weight for the stability of this region and countering extremist threats.

France, along with UNAMI's proximity to an on-scheduled conclusion by December 31, 2025, remains in a transition that is structured and responsible. With this emphasis, the French government reiterates the necessity for ongoing international engagement so as to maintain stability and continue independent development in Iraq.

Iraq

After its formation in 2003, UNAMI was the most important actor on the scene in reference to Iraq's political stabilisation, reconstruction, and human rights. The government of Iraq cooperated very closely with UNAMI in facilitating inclusive political dialogue, national reconciliation, and the establishment of democratic institutions.

Recently, although much has happened to improve internal stability and the institutional framework of politics in Iraq, the government has requested the end of UNAMIs mandate to thus prove its capability to manage internal issues independently. The UN Security Council accepted this request unanimously and set 31 December 2025 as the closure date of the mission.

During this period when the mission is phased out, Iraq will place its efforts on institutional building aimed at transitioning. These include security improvements, continued political reform, and economic development to take on the remaining challenges. The Iraqi government recognizes that it will require sustained international support during this time in order to entrench gains and prevent any resurgence of instability.

Kuwait

Kuwait has positively paved the way concerning reconstruction and stabilization of Iraq because it believes in a stable neighbor for regional security. The country has continually hosted international conferences focusing on rebuilding Iraq, with matching pledges for serious financial commitment towards the recovery. This impressive move shows how Kuwait is truly invested in fostering peace and stability in the region.

Kuwait also worked with the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) to resolve longstanding political problems rooted in past conflicts, such as the recoveries of missing Kuwaitis and the return of national archives. These measures have succeeded in fostering confidence and strengthening diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Kuwait called for coordination in the transition between phases to allow Iraq to carry on with its strides alone, as UNAMI has papers on the scheduled end of the mission by 2025. Kuwait asked for continued regional dialogue and cooperation in meeting threats and problems such as security and economic development that manifest challenges as holding the current momentum that international assistance has enabled.

United States

The role of the United States has been important in Iraqi reconstruction after 2003. They gave military support to the Iraqi government and also financial aid to stabilize the country and fight against violent extremism under groups like ISIS. Jointly with the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), the US facilitated political dialogue strengthening democratic institutions and improving human rights.

Over the years, as Iraq stabilized to the point where the requesting government had worked for a date of December 31, 2025 to conclude UNAMI's mandate, the U.S. supported this request. It is a decision that reflects growing confidence in the capacity of Iraq to run internal affairs independently. The US has insisted on a responsible transition to ensure that the gains of the last two decades will be continued.

The U.S. continues to cooperate with Iraqi authorities to continue reform efforts, especially in the areas of governance, security, and economic development, in preparation for UNAMI's withdrawal. The **11**

U.S. stressed the need to address outstanding deficits in corruption and sectarian divisions as part of ensuring the country's sovereignty and long-term stability.

European Union

The European Union is a partner of Iraq in rebuilding the country and mostly supports its stabilization efforts through funding and technical expertise, particularly through the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). EU support is focused on governance reforms, promotion of human rights, and facilitating free and fair elections, which lead to democratic development in Iraq.

Before UNAMI inevitably draws to a close on December 31, 2025, the EU pushes for the development of a comprehensive transition blueprint, in order for Iraq to have the capacity to take the progress forward independently. Continued capacity support to the country for building institutions and economic development are part and parcel of ensuring that the transition is smooth. The EU's focus would be on issues such as unemployment and corruption as one of the most critical aspects for long-term stability.

The European Union is also helping Iraq with international and regional integration so that economic partnerships and diplomatic relations are established which can strengthen the resilience of the country. The Union will continue working with both Iraqi authorities and international partners to ensure a smooth transition as UNAMI comes to an end.

UNHCR

The UNHCR has been a key player in Iraq as it mainly dealt with the displaced and the refugees which include IDPs on their reintegration back into the communities. Iraq has been a place that has been living under wars and unrest for decades and qualifies today as having one of the largest displacement crises worldwide. The UNHCR has given humanitarian assistance as per survival needs from the seasonal provision of shelter and drinking clean water to essential healthcare services to millions of Iraqis displaced by conflicts, particularly along the battlefield phases in the fight against ISIS from the year 2014 to 2017.

The UNHCR also collaborates with UNAMI to find long-term solutions for the displaced population. These are the voluntary safe and dignified return of refugees and IDPs to their places of **12**

origin. The UNHCR has also pushed for housing rehabilitation and resolution of property disputes in conflict-affected areas such as Mosul and Sinjar.

The continuation of UNHCR advocacy post-2025 with respect to continued international support is vital to assure that Iraq will have the means to meet the challenge of internal displacement. Though important strides have been made, over 1.2 million people are still internally displaced. This continues as the UNHCR spearheads the formulation of policies that protect vulnerable populations while upholding international humanitarian standards in this critical transitional phase.

Blocs Expected

Alliance 1

The first alliance, consisting of The Russian Federation, Peoples Republic of China, Algeria, Pakistan, Somalia, Sierra Leone, and Guyana, have expressed their emphatic support for a rapid, unconditional withdrawal of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). They purport that as the principle of state sovereignty implies, Iraq is sufficiently mature politically and institutionally in such a way as to render the UN presence no longer indispensable. They maintain that it would be irrelevant for a country, which has outrightly applied for the termination of an international mission, to impose any external conditions to this withdrawal. This alliance tends to be skeptical about humanitarian interventions because, in their opinion, they can be more often than not a means of political influence rather than real peacekeeping. It is a fact that several great members of this alliance, especially Russia and China, have been opposing the development of missions on sovereign territories which have had a long-standing close relation with Western powers. Such a development does not align well with the principles of non-intervention. These said nations would certainly argue that, as a state, Iraq needs to be stable, however it should be stabilisation fully by Iraq itself, not prolonging UNAMI under new justifications.

Alliance 2

The second alliance, which consists of the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Denmark, Greece, Panama, the Republic of Korea, and Slovenia, favors UNAMI exit options that appear more structured and measured. While they acknowledge Iraq's sovereignty and its request to terminate the **13**

mission, they maintain that a hurried exit may place Iraq in situations weighted with security and governance challenges. These countries stress that a successful transition must be accompanied by mechanisms to guarantee political stability and security for Iraq, such as ongoing technical and advisory input from the UN. Concerns of this bloc revolve particularly around political instability, the resurgence of extremist groups, and the protection of human rights following withdrawal. They advocate for a gradual liquidation process conditioned on the achievement of milestones in monitoring Iraq's stability, like institutional readiness, security sector reform, and economic resilience, before fully liquidating UNAMI. In this way, their focus is on long-term stability over immediate withdrawal, ensuring that an exit of the UN does not plunge Iraq into renewed crises.

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Date	Description of Event
14 August 2003	UNAMI became established, with Security Council Authorization as a follow-up arrangement after the American invasion and the downfall of Saddam Hussein.
10 August 2007	An extension of the UNAMI mandate under SC Resolution 1770 including tasks dealing with mediation, support during elections, and humanitarian aid.
27 June 2013	Security Council Resolution of the United Nations 2107 deals with the missing persons and property in Iraq-Kuwait.
2014-2017	The unrest in Iraq that was ignited by ISIS required international military intervention and humanitarian aid.

10 October 2021	Iraq does proceed to carry its election for the Council of Representatives supported and advised by UNAMI and the various international partners, such as France.	
31 May 2024	The Security Council has approved Resolution 2732, which allows for the liquidation of the UN Organization until completion by 31 December 2025.	

Relevant UN Resolutions, Treaties & Events

- United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) Establishment Resolution, 14th of August 2003 (S/RES/1500)
- <u>United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) Mandate Expansion Resolution, 10th of August 2007 (S/RES/1770)</u>
- Iraq-Kuwait Missing Persons and Property Resolution, 27th of June 2013 (S/RES/2107)
- <u>United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) Mandate Renewal Resolution, 31st of May</u> 2023 (S/RES/2682)
- <u>United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) Liquidation Plan Resolution, 31st of May</u> 2024 (S/RES/2732)

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

NATO's Training Mission in Iraq

NATO has been instrumental in training and advising the Iraqi security forces since 2018 through the establishment of the NATO Mission Iraq (NMI). The mission is focused on the establishment of sustainable, efficient, security institutions with training programs for military leadership and strategies

for internal security. This program will support long-term stability in Iraq, thus reducing the dependency on foreign military intervention. In boosting security capabilities, NATO's mission aimed at post-UNAMI internal stability for Iraq. The reason this solution was not fully effective is because this program faced political sensitivities like domestic opposition to the ongoing presence of international forces which lead to the decreased impact and scope on non-military governance and development.

The European Advisory Mission (EUAM) in Iraq

Strategically advising Iraqi institutions in areas such as civilian security and judicial reform is what constituted the EUAM for Iraq. Strengthening the rule of law and promoting good governance shall be accomplished through technical assistance given on legislation and administrative frameworks. While this is a key consideration in some sectors, however the failure of EUAM to penetrate the capital-related phenomena, such as insecurities of fullness with regard to tackling systemic corruption, coordination insufficiency with local actors, and lack of capacity in the enforcement of its recommendations, greatly limits the options available to it in providing the required breadth of application to address large socio-political issues. EUAM's efforts toward rule-of-law institutions directly serve the governance framework of Iraq and lays the basis for more effective justice and security mechanisms. However, the narrow remit does not entail political reconciliation or economic recovery, thereby compromising its comprehensive effectiveness.

Arab League's Engagement in Regional Cooperation

The Arab League has engaged in holding dialogue meetings and promoting regional cooperation over the territorial integrity of Iraq, as well as its relations with its neighbors. It has also served as a venue from which Iraq itself could engage in full diplomatic relations with its Middle Eastern counterparts, with an eye toward regional stability. The League, on the other hand, has taken no direct action nor implemented particular programs toward post-conflict transitions in Iraq. In this aspect, the participation of the Arab League ties Iraq into an umbrella of regional support overlooking issues of sovereignty and cross-border relations. On the other hand-the league's efforts tend to be more symbolic and not typically backed up by actionable resource-backed initiatives tailored to Iraq's own specific transition needs.

Possible Solutions

Collaborative Transition planning

For an effective liquidation of UNAMI, it is important that this takes place in phases through a harmonized transition plan. Such a plan should encompass an orderly personnel draw-down, as well as the repurposing or disposal of UNAMI assets, while transferring these responsibilities to either Iraqi institutions or the relevant UN agencies. There would be continuous dialogue between the UN and Iraq through this collaborative approach because it would help address logistical issues and milestones with regard to withdrawal. A continuity of assistance in core areas such as human rights monitoring and electoral assistance throughout the transition would minimize disruptions in ongoing programs. It has respected Iraqi sovereignty and the integrity of work by UNAMI until the end of its mandate.

Strengthening local capacities

The long-term successful withdrawal of UNAMI will depend on sustaining the achievements of the mission in Iraq. This will require helping to strengthen local institutions through targeted training programs, reforming the judiciary, and investing in public administration. The government of Iraq must work on mainstreaming UNAMI's best practices into its governance systems to further cement progress in areas such as reconciliation and economic recovery. Capacity-building programs under international organizations will empower the Iraqi authorities to tackle challenges alone and instill a sense among the population regarding national ownership and responsibility for continued development.

Leveraging existing UN Agencies

As UNAMI concludes its mission, the presence of the other UN agencies, including UNDP, WHO, and UNICEF, can ensure that critical development and humanitarian programs continue without any flaws or dangers. The said agencies are certainly well-placed to play specific roles in the amelioration of health and education and in the economic opportunities for the people in general. International support will therefore continue to be given to Iraq through these decentralized but specialized entities. This will assure that Iraq is connected with the global expertise and resources once the mission is closed and provide them a pathway ahead in a sustainable fashion.

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