Iraq continues to rank toward the bottom of World Bank and Brookings Institution compilations of governance indicators (see Figure 2.27). According to these indicators, Iraq faces significant challenges in addressing the issues of political stability, rule of law, and control of corruption. U.S. assistance in the area of governance encompasses elections, anticorruption, human rights, health care, education, capacity development, legislation, and programs to support refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Since 2003, the United States has allocated approximately $7.28 billion, obligated $7.06 billion, and expended $6.04 billion for governance activities in Iraq. For the status of these funds, see Figure 2.28.

This quarter, the governance programs that saw the most activity were funded by the ESF. The National Capacity Development program, which seeks to build capacity of key Iraqi ministries, develop management skills, and institutionalize training activities, had $45 million in new obligations and $33 million in new expenditures. The Community Action Program, which fosters citizen involvement at the grassroots level, had $46 million in new obligations and $32 million in new expenditures. Other programs with significant quarterly obligations and expenditures include Ministerial Capacity Development, PRT/PRDC Projects, and the PRT Quick Response Fund. For an overview of quarterly obligations and new obligations and new expenditures, see Figure 2.28.

The United States fully understands—recognizes, and supports—the notion that there’s a sovereign Iraqi government. But we stand ready to use our good offices to support Iraqi national unity. Above all, the United States remains committed to a long-term, bilateral relationship with a united Iraq.

—Vice President Joseph Biden, Erbil, Iraq, September 17, 2009

GOVERNANCE INDICATORS

Percentile of Countries

Voice and Accountability

Political Stability & Absence of Violence/Terrorism

Government Effectiveness

Regulatory Quality

Rule of Law

Control of Corruption

Voice and Accountability—the extent to which citizens are able to participate in selecting their government, freedom of expression and association, and free media

Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism—the likelihood that the government will be destabilized or overthrown by unconstitutional or violent means

Government Effectiveness—the quality of public services, quality of the civil service and its independence from political pressures, and quality of policy formulation and implementation

Regulatory Quality—the ability of the government to formulate and implement sound policies and regulations that permit and promote private-sector development

Rule of Law—the extent to which agents have confidence in and abide by the rules of society, and in particular, the quality of contract enforcement, property rights, the police, and the courts

Control of Corruption—the extent to which public power is exercised for private gain, including both petty and grand forms of corruption

Note: The aggregate governance indicators reflect a statistical compilation of responses on the quality of governance given by a large number of enterprise, citizen, and expert survey respondents. Countries are ranked relative to each other, but relative positions are subject to margins of error.

expenditures for governance sectors and selected programs, see Table 2.17.

Anticorruption

Corruption remains a very serious problem in Iraq, and GOI efforts to address corruption issues are ongoing, but are not yet sufficiently effective. Draft legislation to strengthen Iraq’s anticorruption institutions and a proposed comprehensive anticorruption law are still awaiting CoR approval. A GOI campaign that began in June 2009 is starting to address the critical issue of bribery in government.326

Recent efforts to hold senior GOI officials accountable for corruption may indicate a growing GOI commitment to the issue. In September 2009, Iraq’s Higher Judicial Council (HJC) announced that it had received 445 corruption-related cases to date in 2009. On September 2, 2009, the Commission on Integrity (COI) announced the arrest of Deputy Transportation Minister Adnan al-Ubaidi on bribery charges. Al-Ubaidi was arrested and is awaiting trial after receiving part of a $500,000 bribe that he had demanded for extending a private security contract for services at the Baghdad International Airport. COI officials indicated that capacity-building assistance provided by the United States made the arrest possible. Also awaiting trial is former Trade Minister Abdul Falah al-Sudani, who was arrested in May 2009 after resigning amid allegations of corruption. Judicial authorities indicate that he will be tried in Baghdad, while other senior Trade Ministry officials arrested on corruption charges will be tried separately in Muthanna province, where the case originated.327

There are growing reports of anticorruption activities being carried out by provincial authorities, including the September 2009 conviction and imprisonment of four officials in Kerbala province for embezzlement of provincial funds. In July 2009, the KRG unveiled a strategy for good governance and transparency based on an assessment commissioned from U.S. accounting and consulting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers.328

UNCAC Compliance

The U.S. Embassy’s Anti-Corruption Coordination Office (ACCO) continues to support anticorruption initiatives aimed at improving Iraqi capacity and transparency at both national and sub-national levels. In September 2009, senior anticorruption officials, assisted by UN experts under a U.S.-funded project, met to finalize the GOI’s new anticorruption strategy for achieving compliance with the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). The new strategy, which replaces the 18-point plan issued by the GOI in January 2008, is expected to be released in October and
The GOI plan had not, however, been released by the time this report was published.

### Other U.S. Anticorruption Initiatives
ACCO coordinates with USAID, DoD, and U.S. Embassy offices on anticorruption projects and activities and is monitoring approximately 30 activities, including USAID/Tatweer programs to train OIGs, DoJ training programs at the COI, and DoD mentoring of inspectors general at the Ministries of Defense and Interior. For the status of ongoing U.S.-funded anticorruption programs, see Table 2.18.

#### Table 2.17
Quarterly Obligations and Expenditures for Governance Sectors, with Selected Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Governance Sector</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Status of Funds</th>
<th>Quarterly Changes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Obligated</td>
<td>Expended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity Development</td>
<td>National Capacity Development (ESF)</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ministerial Capacity Development (ESF)</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PRT/PRDC Projects (ESF)</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PRT Quick Response Fund (ESF)</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Stabilization Program (ESF)</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Planning and Design – PRDC (ESF)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other Capacity Development</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democracy and Civil Society</td>
<td>Community Action Program (ESF)</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Local Governance Program (ESF)</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other Democracy and Civil Society</td>
<td>1,320</td>
<td>1,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanitarian Relief</td>
<td></td>
<td>819</td>
<td>747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,906</td>
<td>1,728</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Data not audited. Numbers affected by rounding. OSD does not report CERP allocation, obligation, and expenditure data for project categories on a quarterly basis for all fiscal year appropriations; CERP allocation, obligation, and expenditure data is pulled from IRMS; therefore, totals may not match top-line values found in the Funding Sources subsection of this Report. U.S. Embassy-Baghdad did not provide updated allocation, obligation, and expenditure data for the Democracy and Civil Society and Iraqi Refugees (Jordan) sectors; values for these sectors are carried over from the previous quarter.

The National Democratic Institute (NDI) partnered with an Iraqi organization to conduct vote tabulation assistance for the KRG’s July 2009 presidential and parliamentary elections. NDI is currently training members of political entities on negotiation strategies for entering a coalition in advance of the January 2010 elections.

The International Republican Institute (IRI) provided pre-election training for both major parties and emerging entities committed to democratic development in competing for seats at the municipal, district, and national levels, while also working with civil society organizations to conduct grassroots and broadcast media voter education, including for the voter registration update.

The International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) conducted workshops throughout the provinces on election reporting, verifying campaign promises, examining party statements, learning the rules and procedures of the IHEC, and supporting broadcast elections programming on the television and radio on the KRG elections.

The Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR) trained 75 reporters on elections coverage in preparation for the KRG elections and continued to provide on-the-job training for 40 reporters, editors, and photojournalists.
KRG Presidential and Parliamentary Election

The KRG is the governing body of the autonomous Kurdistan Region in northern Iraq. Encompassing an area larger than 15,000 square miles, the Kurdistan Region has a president, prime minister, and an elected parliament—the Iraqi Kurdistan Parliament (IKP). On July 25, 2009, more than 1.8 million voters (about 80% of the eligible voters) cast their ballots in the Kurdistan Region’s presidential and parliamentary election.340 Voters in Kurdistan also take part in Iraq’s national elections.

Human Rights

The human rights environment in Iraq continues to be an area of concern. Although Iraq’s legal framework provides for broad protection of human rights, extrajudicial harassment and violence are rampant. A new USAID initiative for 2010 is currently being designed to improve Iraqi citizens’ access to the justice system, especially for vulnerable groups, through widened civil society advocacy, legal assistance activities, and improved legal education. Funding for this initiative currently stands at $24 million from FY 2009 supplemental funds, and further obligations are expected to bring the total obligated amount to $60 million.341 In addition, following the January 2010 elections, the focus of many DRL-funded programs is expected to shift toward addressing the issues of sectarian reconciliation, providing mediation training, advising political parties on consensus-building issues, and strengthening the capabilities of the Ministry of Human Rights, CoR, judicial system, and media.342

GOI Efforts To Address Human Rights Issues

On October 6, 2009, Iraq’s Minister of Defense hosted a human rights conference in Baghdad to address human rights and the fair treatment of prisoners. Iraqis, including officials from the Ministry of Human Rights and Ministry of the

• American University (AU) continued to provide basic voter education in Ninewa, Salah Al-Din, and Anbar provinces, with a specific focus on women, IDPs, and illiterate voters.

USAID Support for Elections

USAID has obligated approximately $103 million for its existing electoral support program, which is implemented by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES). Of this amount, USAID estimates that approximately $42 million will be expended in 2010. IFES is developing information and communication systems for tallying election results and updating voter registration records.335 USAID’s Elections Support Program has assisted the IHEC in administering four major electoral events since 2004.336

In preparation for the January 2010 elections, USAID and IFES have been working to respond to training, supply, and equipment needs outlined in a needs assessment of the IHEC’s provincial level offices, referred to as Governorate Electoral Offices (GEOs). USAID’s electoral support program will be conducting electoral administration training for IHEC and GEO staff, supporting the continued development of the public outreach office, IT department, and Data Entry Center. In the post-election period, USAID will continue to provide institutional and capacity-building support to the IHEC.337

UN Support for Elections

On August 7, 2009, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1883 to extend for another year the mandate of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI).338 UNAMI continues to provide the IHEC with electoral experts who help manage the electoral process. According to the SRSG, more than 250,000 Iraqis had visited the 1,082 voter registration centers in Iraq as of September 5, 2009. This year, on average, around 4,750 forms for additions, deletions, and changes to the Voter List are being issued per day, compared with 2,500 forms last year. The IHEC is continuing to distribute 18 million voter information cards to registered Iraqis.339
Interior, reiterated the GOI’s commitment to detainee rights. Iraq’s Interior Minister stated that 490 investigations into missing or dead detainees had been initiated.\footnote{343}

**Persecution and Violence against Homosexuals**

In August 2009, the non-profit human rights advocacy group Human Rights Watch (HRW) released a report on the situation facing members of the gay community in Iraq. In the report, HRW describes roving gangs of “death squads” that target men suspected of engaging in homosexual behavior. These groups are suspected of being tied to militias operating in Iraq, notably Muqtada al-Sadr’s Mahdi Army. Furthermore, HRW reported that Iraqi authorities have done little to stem violence against homosexuals.\footnote{344}

**Health Care**

The GOI still struggles to meet the health care needs of its people and lacks a widely accepted vision and strategy for implementing a public health care system.\footnote{345} According to the World Health Organization (WHO), in 2008 Iraq had 6.1 physicians and 12.6 hospital beds per 10,000 persons.\footnote{346} By comparison, in 2007 Saudi Arabia had 21 physicians and 22.1 hospital beds,\footnote{347} and Jordan had 26.7 physicians and 18 hospital beds per 10,000 persons.\footnote{348}

GRD reported that as of October 1, 2009, 133 Primary Healthcare Centers (PHCs) funded by the IRRF had been turned over to the GOI Ministry of Health (MOH). GRD estimates that these PHCs treat approximately 4.6 million outpatients annually. GRD also reported that it completed 47 hospital renovations, and 6 projects remain ongoing. GRD estimates that these hospitals serve 6.6 million patients each year.\footnote{349}

Recently, the U.S. Embassy’s Office of the Health Attaché (OHA) has been working with the GOI to determine its level of commitment to the ESF-funded **Missan Surgical Hospital**.\footnote{350} Last quarter, SIGIR reported that the hospital project was behind schedule and had construction deficiencies.\footnote{351} As of August 2009, OHA, in coordination with GRD and ITAO, reported that progress is being made to resolve construction challenges and medical support and operational issues by Iraq’s MOH.\footnote{352}

**Maternity and Obstetrics Care**

This quarter, GRD completed construction of the ESF-funded **Mussayib Maternity Hospital**. However, the MOH asked to delay the opening ceremony until the hospital has been adequately equipped and staffed. PRT Babylon is working with the MOH on the procurement of equipment.\footnote{353} This hospital will be coming online at a critical time. Babylon province is in a baby boom, with the Director General of Health reporting a 300% increase in births since 2003. The facility may be needed to serve as many as 5,000 births and at least 25,000 child well-care visits per year.\footnote{354}

In August 2009, the UN Population Fund turned over to the GOI 31 maternity wards as part of the Emergency Obstetric Care Project. The wards will enable 24 hospitals and 7 PHCs to provide services to an estimated 4 million Iraqi women.\footnote{355}

**H1N1 Influenza**

OHA, in collaboration with the MOH, continues to monitor and report disease outbreaks. Current efforts include the pandemic H1N1 influenza. In coordination with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Naval Medical Research, training continues to be offered to Iraqi public health technicians from the Ministries of Health and Agriculture. In August 2009, a coordinated training activity was held in Amman, Jordan, for 42 Iraqi public health and veterinarian professionals.\footnote{356} Additionally, USAID is currently providing technical assistance to the MOH to increase its capacity to design and implement an effective H1N1 influenza awareness programs. This program is also expected to strengthen the overall capacity of the MOH to respond to any infectious diseases affecting Iraq.\footnote{357}
In August 2009, UNAMI’s Health Sector Outcome Team, working through WHO and Iraq’s MOH, responded to the spread of the H1N1 virus by ramping up disease monitoring and health education activities. In the Kurdistan Region, the MOH, supported by UNICEF, has been preparing to air a series of television and radio spots on H1N1 and seasonal influenza preventive measures.

Education

Iraq’s population is young and growing rapidly. More than 40% of the population is currently under 15 years of age; and over the next two decades, the youth population in Iraq is expected to grow by almost 3 million, from 5.8 million in 2005 to a projected 8.6 million in 2025. On average, Iraqi women tend to marry and begin child-bearing at a young age, giving birth to between four and five children.

Currently, the largest numbers of illiterate young people in the Middle East are found in Iraq, Yemen, and Egypt; girls represent more than two-thirds of that group. Iraq’s education system, once regarded as the best in the Middle East, has been in gradual decline since the mid-1980s. Thus, the current older population in Iraq has had more education than the younger generation. According to 2007–2008 data from Iraq’s Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology, primary school enrollment for 6- to 11-year-olds was 84.8%, with the lowest rate for rural girls at 70.1%; however, enrollment rates markedly decline at the intermediate and secondary school levels (See Figure 2.29).

The DoS Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) supports education, democracy, civil society, and cultural heritage activities in Iraq through educational and cultural exchanges. Approximately $12.47 million was allocated for ECA programs in Iraq in FY 2009. The majority of funds supported cultural grants, including high school and undergraduate leadership programs ($3.0 million) and educational advising ($1.25 million). More than $3.39 million supports English language teaching. Since 2003, approximately 170 Iraqis have been awarded Fulbright Student scholarships, including 29 in FY 2009, to allow for completion of a Masters Degree in the United States. Students are expected to return to Iraq to share new knowledge and expertise with colleagues; however, ECA is concerned that participants may try to avoid returning to Iraq following program completion. Other educational exchange programs support mid-career professional training, and leadership development.

GRD reported that as of October 1, 2009, it has completed 1,130 U.S.-funded school projects throughout Iraq, and 41 remain ongoing. These projects provide new construction as well as renovation of existing facilities. For a list of U.S.-funded school-construction projects completed this quarter, see Table 2.19.

Legislation

The CoR reconvened on September 8, 2009, for its fall session and is currently considering draft legislation for the January 2010 election cycle. In addition to an Elections Law, the CoR faces a legislative agenda that includes the 2009 supplemental
Refugees and IDPs

As of September 23, 2009, 33,565 Iraqis had been resettled in the United States, including 18,135 in FY 2009, surpassing the goal of 17,000 set for the year. The majority of resettled Iraqi refugees have been processed from third countries—mainly Jordan and Syria—with 1,488 having been resettled from the in-country refugee processing program in Baghdad.364

The use of different methodologies to track the movement of IDPs and refugees can yield varying and occasionally inconsistent findings. UN High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) reports that approximately 2.65 million Iraqis remain displaced inside Iraq, and approximately 1.90 million Iraqis are refugees residing outside Iraq, as of January 2009.365 For the location and number of Iraqi refugees and IDPs, see Figure 2.30.

The plight of Iraqi refugees and IDPs has received increased attention in 2009. On July 23, 2009, American film actress and UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Angelina Jolie made her third trip to Iraq to highlight the needs of Iraq’s IDPs and to appeal for more aid.366 UNHCR reports that only 48% of its goal of $299 million for Iraq and the region has been funded by donors—a shortfall that may affect future programs.367

This quarter, the DoS Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) contributed $73 million to UNHCR’s revised appeal for Iraq and the region surrounding Iraq. Of this, $13 million was earmarked for returns and reintegration programming inside Iraq, bringing the total for IDP-related initiatives to $33 million. The remaining $60 million brought PRM’s total un-earmarked contribution to $165 million to support refugees in the region and IDPs inside Iraq. PRM also contributed $2 million to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to assist female-headed household returnees, building on a previous $10 million contribution for a related program targeting returnees more broadly.368

This quarter, UNHCR initiated partnerships for home reconstruction or rehabilitation for 2,000 returnee families in Baghdad, Salah Al-Din, and Diyala provinces, as well as rehabilitation of 100 IDP and refugee shelters in Ninewa’s capital of Mosul. UNHCR continued to assist returnees through its six Returns, Integration and Community Centers (RICCs) in Baghdad and is working with partners to open additional RICCs in Mosul and in southern Iraq. UNHCR also collaborated with Iraq’s Ministry of Migration and Displacement to provide emergency supplies to 200 families affected by the August 19, 2009, bombings as well as 200 families affected by early August bombings in Ninewa.369

On August 14, 2009, President Obama announced the appointment of a new Senior Director for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights

### Table 2.19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date Completed</th>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Project Cost (S Millions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amer Bin Yasir Elementary School</td>
<td>Baghdad</td>
<td>7/13/2009</td>
<td>ESF</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zaryland Secondary School</td>
<td>Dahuk</td>
<td>7/30/2009</td>
<td>ESF</td>
<td>1.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abu Ghraib Kindergarten</td>
<td>Baghdad</td>
<td>7/28/2009</td>
<td>ESF</td>
<td>0.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al-Thawab School</td>
<td>Anbar</td>
<td>7/8/2009</td>
<td>ESF</td>
<td>0.63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: GRD, response to SIGIR data call, 10/2/2009.
at the National Security Council to coordinate U.S. efforts to assist Iraqi refugees and IDPs. The new White House official is working with U.S. Embassy-Baghdad to make IDP and refugee issues a more urgent policy matter for the GOI and to provide greater resources for their aid. U.S.-funded partners, including UNHCR, the International Committee of the Red Cross, IOM, Mercy Corps, the International Medical Corps, the International Rescue Committee, and others provide a wide range of humanitarian, legal, and livelihood assistance to refugees and IDPs.379