

# **Iraq Weekly Status Report**

**March 8, 2006**

**Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs  
US Department of State**



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This report provides weekly updates in the eight key areas identified as pillars of US government policy for victory in Iraq.

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## Highlights

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### **1. Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents**

Coalition and Iraqi forces' operations in Iraq northeast of Fallujah and in Anbar province recently resulted in the detention of 62 suspects.

### **2. Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance**

The 3rd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division assumed battle space responsibility of an area covering western Baghdad and eastern Abu Ghraib from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, on March 2.

### **3. Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government**

On March 5, Iraq's president, Jalal Talabani, said he planned to convene the new Council of Representatives for the first time on March 12.

### **4. Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services**

More than 250,000 residents and 250 businesses in Baghdad, Maysan, and Najaf Provinces have access to potable water after the installation of almost 10 kilometer of water line, repair of a compact water unit, installation of two water compact units, construction of an elevated storage tank, rehabilitation of two pumps, installation of an additional pump, and repair of a water main by the US Army Corps of Engineers.



## Highlights

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### 5. Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

On March 6 South Korea and Sweden both signed bilateral agreements with Iraq to forgive 80 percent of Iraq's debt.

### 6. Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law

Saddam Hussein said he alone should be tried for Iraqi government actions in Dujail in 1982. He acknowledged that he signed orders for the destruction of orchards and farmland after an failed assassination attempt against him failed.

### 7. Increase International Support for Iraq

On March 4, Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa announced that the Arab League will open offices in Iraq for the first time since the 2003, part of its efforts to help reconcile the country's Sunni Arab, Shiite and Kurdish communities.

### 8. Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents

In an interview with the Los Angeles Times on March 7, Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad said that "For now, Iraq has pulled back from [civil war] after the wave of sectarian reprisals that followed the February 22 bombing of a Shiite Muslim shrine in Samarra. If another incident [occurs], Iraq is really vulnerable to it at this time, in my judgment."



## [1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

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### Iraqi Commander Killed in Attack:

- The commander of the 6th Iraqi Army Division was killed this week in a terrorist attack in western Baghdad. Maj. Gen. Mubdar Hatim Hazya al-Duleimi was returning to his headquarters after visiting Iraqi soldiers in Kadamiyah, northwest of Baghdad, when his convoy came under small-arms fire. US Army Gen. George W. Casey, commander of Multinational Force - Iraq, expressed his condolences over the killing of Mubdar.

### Iraqi Operations Captured 62 Terrorism Suspects:

- Coalition and Iraqi forces operations in Iraq northeast of Fallujah and in Anbar province recently resulted in the detention of 62 suspects. Northeast of Fallujah, Coalition Forces conducted multiple raids late last month to capture al-Qaeda facilitators involved in the logistical support of suicide bombers, foreign fighters and the funding of terrorist activities. Based on intelligence and reporting, Coalition Forces targeted numerous safe houses. The raids resulted in the detention of 61 individuals who will be questioned regarding their knowledge of or involvement in terrorist activities. A large number of weapons and ammunition found during the raids were destroyed in place.



## [2.] Transition to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

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### 6th Iraqi Army Division Closes In On Complete Responsibility:

- The 3rd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division assumed battle space responsibility of an area covering western Baghdad and eastern Abu Ghraib from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, March 2. The ceremony served to demonstrate the increasing role the Iraqi Army is undertaking in operations as it continues to build capability and assume responsibility for increased battle space.

### Counterterrorism School Bids Farewell to Jordan:

- The Iraqi Counter-Terrorism Forces Course, or ICTF, has indoctrinated 533 Iraqi police officers into the field of counterterrorism. The most recent class of 77 graduated February 23 and is the last to attend the course in Amman, Jordan, where it has been located for more than two years. The ICTF course was initiated in October 2003 in a memorandum of agreement between US Special Operations Command, Central Command and the Jordan Special Operations Command. The intent was to provide seven courses of counterterrorism training, using Jordanian trainers with US Special Forces Soldiers in supervisory positions. The program is moving to a new facility in Iraq where the staff will include several ICTF graduates and will be run by Colonel Jameel and the Iraqi Special Forces Brigade.



## [2.] Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### Ministry of Interior Forces

COMPONENT	TRAINED & EQUIPPED
POLICE	~88,900
HIGHWAY PATROL	
OTHER MOI FORCES	~38,800
TOTAL	~127,700*

### Ministry of Defense Forces

COMPONENT	OPERATIONAL
ARMY	~111,500
AIR FORCE	~600
NAVY	~800
TOTAL	~112,900**

**Total Trained & Equipped ISF:**  
**~240,600**

\* Ministry of Interior Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are included in these numbers

\*\* Ministry of Defense Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are not included in these numbers

Data as of March 6, 2006 (updated bi-weekly by DOD)



### [3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government– **Developments**

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#### Pro-Ja'afari Demonstrations in Hillah:

- Citizens of Najaf and Hillah, Babil Province held demonstrations supporting Ibrahim Ja'fari, the United Iraqi Alliance (UIA) nominee for Prime Minister. In Najaf on March 4, several hundred demonstrators reportedly called for Ja'fari to be confirmed as prime minister. The demonstration was organized by Ja'fari's Dawa Party, and no officials from the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI) or those loyal to Muqtada Al-Sadr participated. The March 5 demonstration in Hillah, which included about 150-200 people carrying banners and chanting Ja'fari's name, occurred in front of the Provincial Council building. The Hillah demonstration also was organized by Dawa and included Babil Deputy Provincial Council Chairman and Dawa member Ne'ma Jasim Hamzah.

#### Iraqi President Talabani Meets KRG Prime Minister Barzani:

- Iraqi President Jalal Talabani met Kurdistan Region Prime Minister Nechirvan Barzani on March 6. Iraq's Presidency Office sources said that the meeting reviewed conditions in Iraq in general and the situation in the Kurdistan Region in particular, in addition to the unification of the two administrations in the region. The meeting also discussed efforts being made to form a national unity government in Baghdad enjoying the approval of all winning lists in the elections.





### [3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government– **Developments**

#### IECI Official Announced 15 December 2005 Election Results:

Political Entity Name	Ballot Number	Total Votes	Governorate Seats	Compensatory Seats	National Seats	Total Seats
Unified Iraqi Coalition	555	5021137	109	0	19	128
Kurdistani Gathering	730	2642172	43	0	10	53
Tawafoq Iraqi Front	618	1840216	37	0	7	44
National Iraqi List	731	977325	21	0	4	25
Hewar National Iraqi Front	667	499963	9	0	2	11
Islamic Union of Kurdistan	561	157688	4	0	1	5
Liberation and Reconciliation Gathering	516	129847	3	0	0	3
Mithal Al Aloosi List for Iraqi Nation	620	32245	1	0	0	1
Iraqi Turkoman Front	630	87993	1	0	0	1
Progressives	631	145028	1	0	1	2
Al Ezediah Movement for Progressing and Reform	668	21908	1	0	0	1
Al Rafedain List	740	47263	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>230</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>275</b>



### [3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government - Iraqi Transitional Government

		Deputy President	President	Deputy President	
		Sheikh Ghazi al-Yawr	Jalal Talabani	'Adil 'Abd al-Mahdi	
			Prime Minister		
			Ibrahim al-Ja'fari		
Deputy Prime Minister	Deputy Prime Minister			Deputy Prime Minister	Deputy Prime Minister
Rawsh Shaways	'Abd Mutlak al-Juburi			Ahmad al-Chalabi	Vacant
Minister of Agriculture	Minister of Communications	Minister of Culture	Minister of Defense	Minister of Displacement & Migration	Minister of Electricity
Ali al-Bahadili	Juwan Fu'ad Ma'sum (F)	Nuri al-Rawi	Sa'dun al-Dulaymi	Suhayla al-Kinani (F)	Muhsin Shallash
Minister of Education	Minister of Environment	Minister of Finance	Minister of Foreign Affairs	Minister of Health	Minister of Higher Education
Abdul Mun'im al-Falah Hasan	Narmin 'Uthman (F)	'Ali 'Allawi	Hoshyar Zebari	Abd al-Muttalib al-Rubay'i	Sami al-Muzaffar
Minister of Human Rights	Minister of Industry & Minerals	Minister of Interior	Minister of Justice	Minister of Housing & Construction	Minister of Labor & Social Affairs
Vacant	Usama al-Najafi	Bayan Jabr	'Abd al-Husayn Shandal	Jasim Ja'far	Idris Hadi
Minister of Oil	Minister of Planning	Minister of Trade	Minister of Science & Technology	Minister of Municipalities & Public Works	Minister of Transportation
Hashem al-Hashemi (Acting)	Barham Salih	'Abd al-Basit Mawlud	Basima Butrus (F)	Nasreen Berwari (F)	Salam al-Maliki
Minister of Water Resources	Minister of Youth & Sports	Minister of State for Civil Society	Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs	Minister of State for National Security Affairs	
'Abd al-Latif Rashid	Talib Aziz al-Zaini	'Ala' abib Kazim	Safa' al-Din al-Safi	'Abd al-Karim al-'Anzi	
		Minister of State for Provinces	Minister of State for Tourism and Antiquities	Minister of State for Women's Affairs	
		Sa'd al-Hardan	Hashim al-Hashimi	Azhar al-Shaykhli (F)	

(F) = Female



## [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Financials from Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) 1 and IRRF 2

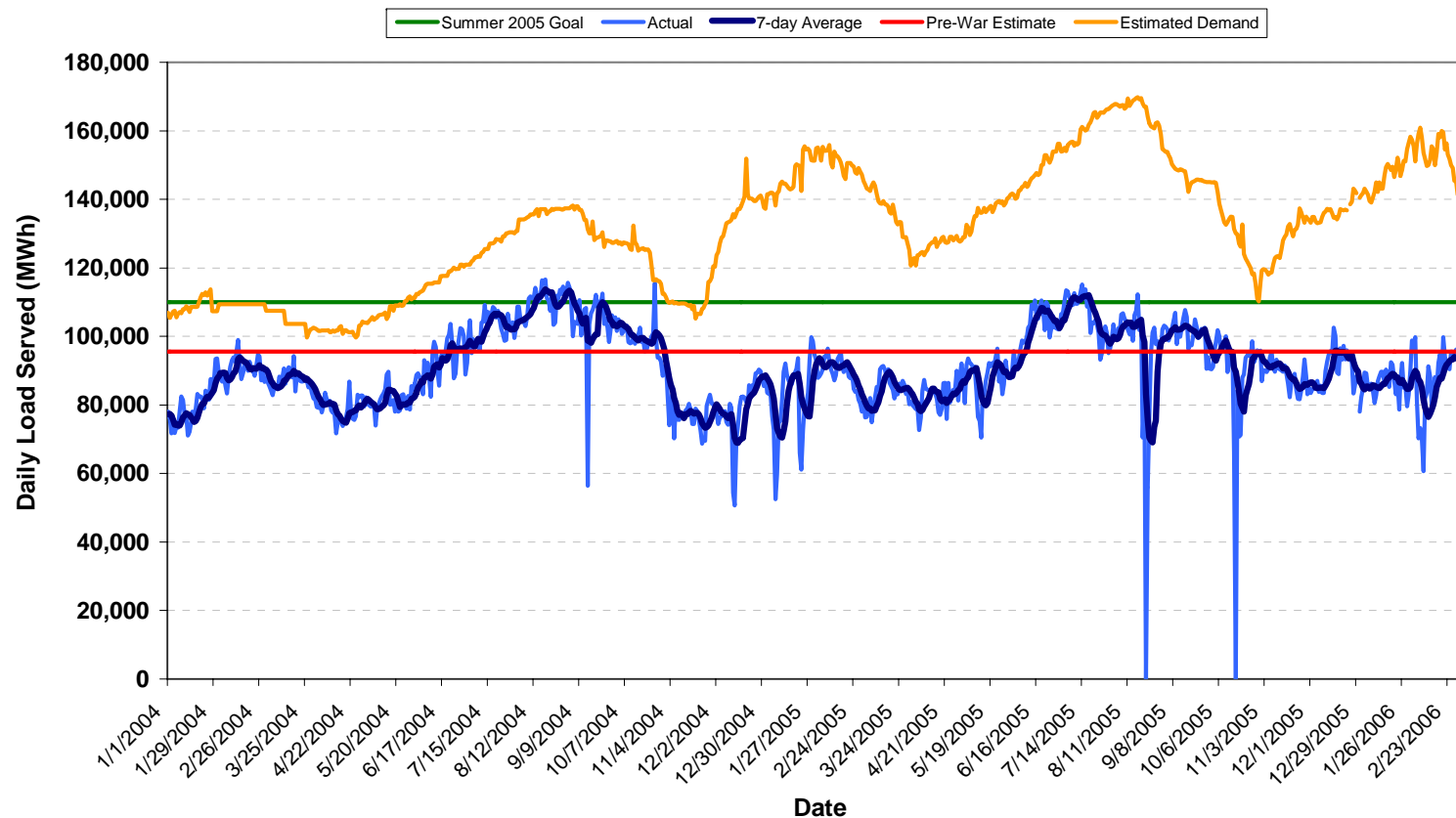
\$Millions	Apportioned		Committed			Obligated			Disbursed		
Sector	2207 Report	Apportion	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change
Security and Law Enforcement	5036.00	5036.00	4,948.1	4,944.9	(3.21)	4,851.0	4,855.1	4.07	4,315.5	4,328.7	13.3
Electricity Sector	4220.02	4220.02	3,719.2	3,707.7	(11.48)	3,402.7	3,402.6	(0.11)	1,949.6	1,970.6	21.0
Oil Infrastructure	1735.60	1735.60	1,682.4	1,670.1	(12.29)	1,549.0	1,553.6	4.62	748.1	755.4	7.3
Justice, Public Safety and Civil Society	1315.95	1315.95	1,206.5	1,209.6	3.09	1,181.6	1,184.6	3.01	797.8	797.7	(0.1)
Democracy	1033.85	1033.85	975.2	975.2	0.00	974.4	975.0	0.59	654.9	656.0	1.2
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	410.00	410.00	342.0	343.2	1.13	337.8	340.2	2.34	232.2	237.2	5.0
Roads, Bridges and Construction	333.71	333.71	294.7	294.7	0.05	287.4	290.0	2.52	172.5	173.3	0.7
Health Care	739.00	739.00	717.3	717.6	0.36	670.6	670.6	0.03	408.9	416.0	7.1
Transportation and Communications	465.51	465.51	457.0	452.2	(4.74)	389.8	414.4	24.60	233.9	239.4	5.5
Water Resources and Sanitation	2131.08	2131.08	1,580.0	1,584.0	4.01	1,482.4	1,479.0	(3.46)	832.1	842.3	10.2
Private Sector Development	805.28	805.28	793.5	793.5	0.00	782.3	782.3	0.00	585.2	595.9	10.7
Admin Expense (USAID, STATE)	213.00	213.00	159.7	159.7	0.00	159.7	159.7	0.00	61.1	61.1	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18439.00</b>	<b>18439.00</b>	<b>16,875.6</b>	<b>16,852.5</b>	<b>(23.08)</b>	<b>16,068.9</b>	<b>16,107.1</b>	<b>38.22</b>	<b>10,991.7</b>	<b>11,073.6</b>	<b>81.9</b>
IRRF 2 Construction			9,579.4	9,558.0	(21.37)	9,062.5	9,065.8	3.29	5,599.3	5,649.4	50.1
IRRF 2 Non-Construction			6,321.0	6,319.3	(1.70)	6,032.0	6,066.3	34.33	4,737.5	4,768.2	30.7
IRRF 2 Democracy			975.8	975.9	0.06	974.4	975.0	0.65	654.9	656.0	1.2
IRRF 1 Subtotal	2473.30	2473.30	2,473.3	2,473.30	0.00	2,473.3	2,473.3	0.00	2,406.6	2,406.6	0.0
<b>Grand Total IRRF 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>20912.30</b>	<b>20912.30</b>	<b>19,348.9</b>	<b>19,325.8</b>	<b>(23.08)</b>	<b>18,542.2</b>	<b>18,580.4</b>	<b>38.22</b>	<b>13,398.3</b>	<b>13,480.2</b>	<b>81.9</b>

As of March 7, 2006



## [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Electricity Overview

Daily Electricity Supplied and Estimated Demand in Iraq Since January 2004



- Electricity availability in Baghdad increased in the last week (28 February – 6 March 2006) with an average of 8.1 hours per day. The greater availability is due to greater output by Baghdad area power plants and decreased demands with moderate seasonal temperatures.
- Nationwide average electricity availability increased slightly to 12.3 hours per day.
- Electricity output for 2006 is four percent higher than it was for the same period in 2005.



#### [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Electricity, Public Health and Healthcare**

##### Electricity:

- The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has distributed nearly \$33 million worth of equipment to the Ministry of Electricity (MOE), including cranes, trucks, transformers, cable, computers, software, safety equipment, towers and other equipment. The USACE program has also provided extensive training on much of the equipment to enable the MOE personnel to operate and maintain both the equipment and power systems throughout the country.
- 7,000 residents in Al Tameen Province have improved electrical service since USACE completed installation of 1.5 kilometer of feeder line providing power to their local substation.

##### Public Health and Healthcare:

- Four villages in Ninawa Province will benefit from a \$290,000 hospital renovation project recently completed by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The upgraded facility serves as the main hospital for these villages and will improve medical care for over 3,000 Iraqis.



## [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Water and Sanitation, Education**

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### Water and Sanitation:

- Approximately 90,000 residents in Abu Ghraib, Baghdad Province will receive piped drinking water from a project funded by the Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP). A local Iraqi company has the contract for this \$107,000 water distribution network.
- The USACE completed a \$525,000 sewer network project that will benefit approximately 30,000 Iraqis in a village near Mosul.

### Education:

- Construction is complete on a \$100,000 US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) school renovation project in Adhamiyah, Baghdad Province. The Al Tarbia school will benefit 250 students in grades K-6 in the Adhamiyah community. Presently, 45 of 46 USACE school projects in the Baghdad Province are under construction or completed.



#### [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Communications and Infrastructure**

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##### Communications:

- Thirty-five government sites are connected and operational with the new Wireless Broadband Network. The state-owned Internet company is continuing to work on signing service contracts with connected ministries.
- The US-funded Advanced First Responder Network (AFRN) installation was completed on January 31. This network covers fifteen cities and provides communications for police, fire, and emergency medical personnel. The system is now operational and under the control of the Ministry of Interior (MOI).

##### Oil:

- The Al Fathah Pipeline River and Canal Crossing Project in Al Tameem is 90 percent complete and due to be completed on March 31. This US Army Corps of Engineers project connects crude oil, refined product, and natural gas lines from the Kirkuk fields to Bayji Refinery. The crude lines also connect to the Iraq-Turkey pipeline. Completion of the project also should help increase oil exports capacity via Turkey, although other bottlenecks still exist.



## [5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Oil Update and Job Creation

### Oil Update:

- Crude oil prices in world markets for the week ending February 24 closed with the following prices:
  - Basrah Light at \$53.31/barrel
  - WTI Cushing at \$62.28/barrel
  - Kirkuk Crude at \$57.32/barrel
  - Dated Brent at \$61.02/barrel
  - Oman/Dubai at \$58.15/barrel

### Employment Update:

- The following chart shows the number of Iraqis employed by USG-administered projects:

Employing Organization	Iraqis Last Week	Iraqis This Week	% Increase on Week
PCO (Project and Contracting Office)	36,320	38,223	5.24%
USAID	49,734	37,401	-24.80%
AIRP (Accelerated Iraqi Reconstruction Program)	1,680	1,268	-24.52%
MILCON (Military Construction)	313	254	-18.85%
CERP (Commanders' Emergency Response Program)	0	0	0.00%
MNSTC-I	16,660	16,660	0.00%
IRRF NON-CONSTRUCTION	15,887	16,012	0.79%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>120,594</b>	<b>109,818</b>	<b>-8.94%</b>

- CERP numbers have not been updated recently and PCO will be reporting on a bi-weekly basis.
- USAID continues to update weekly.

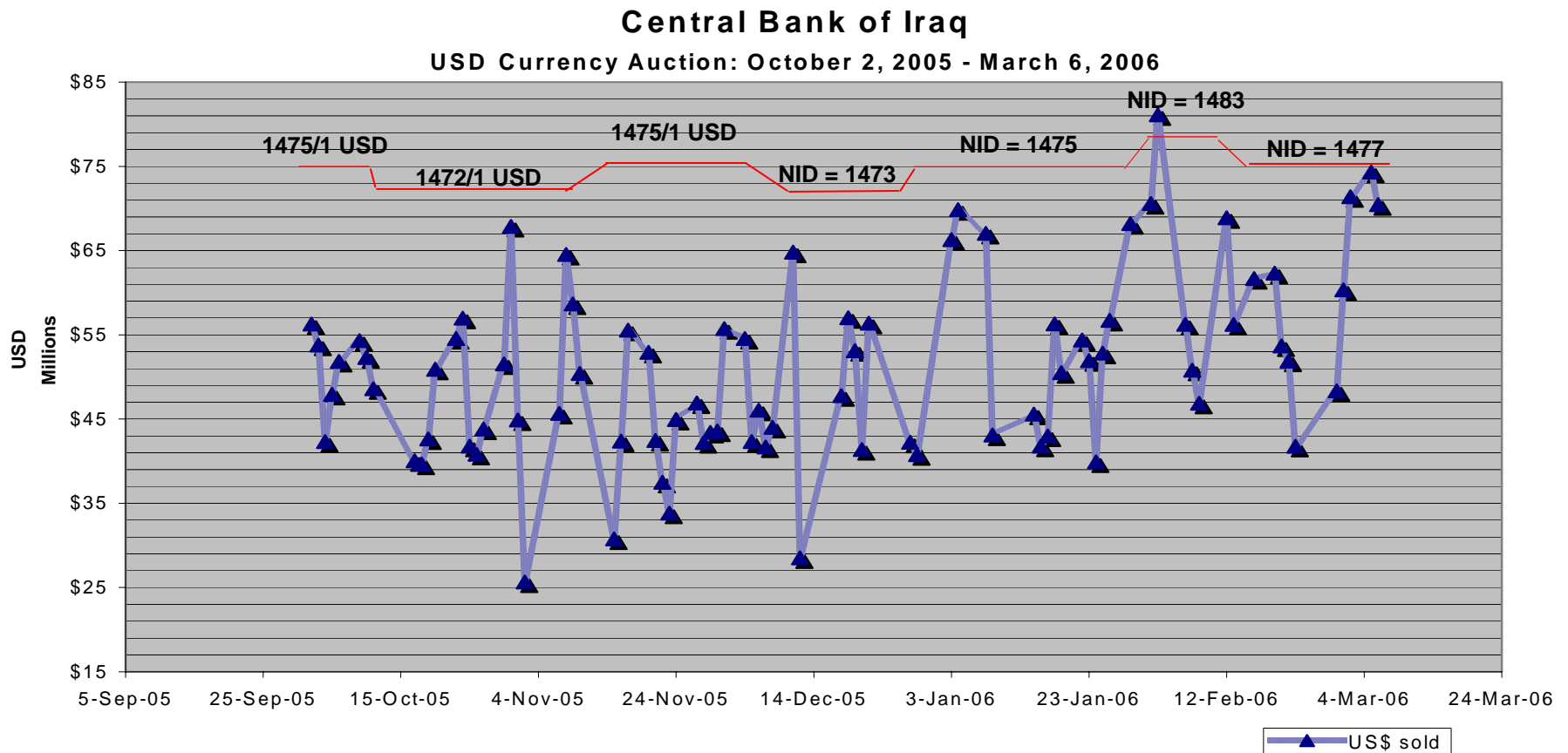




## [5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy - Banking Sector

### Central Bank's US Dollar (USD) Currency Auction:

- The following table shows volume sold and exchange rates for USD in the Iraqi currency auction since October 2, 2005. The dinar remained stable against the dollar this week, ending at 1,477 dinars per USD on March 6.



\*On January 8, the CBI purchased \$1,320,000 of Iraqi Dinars at the exchange rate of 1481 NID/\$.

\*The NID exchange rate line is calculated as a weekly weighted average.

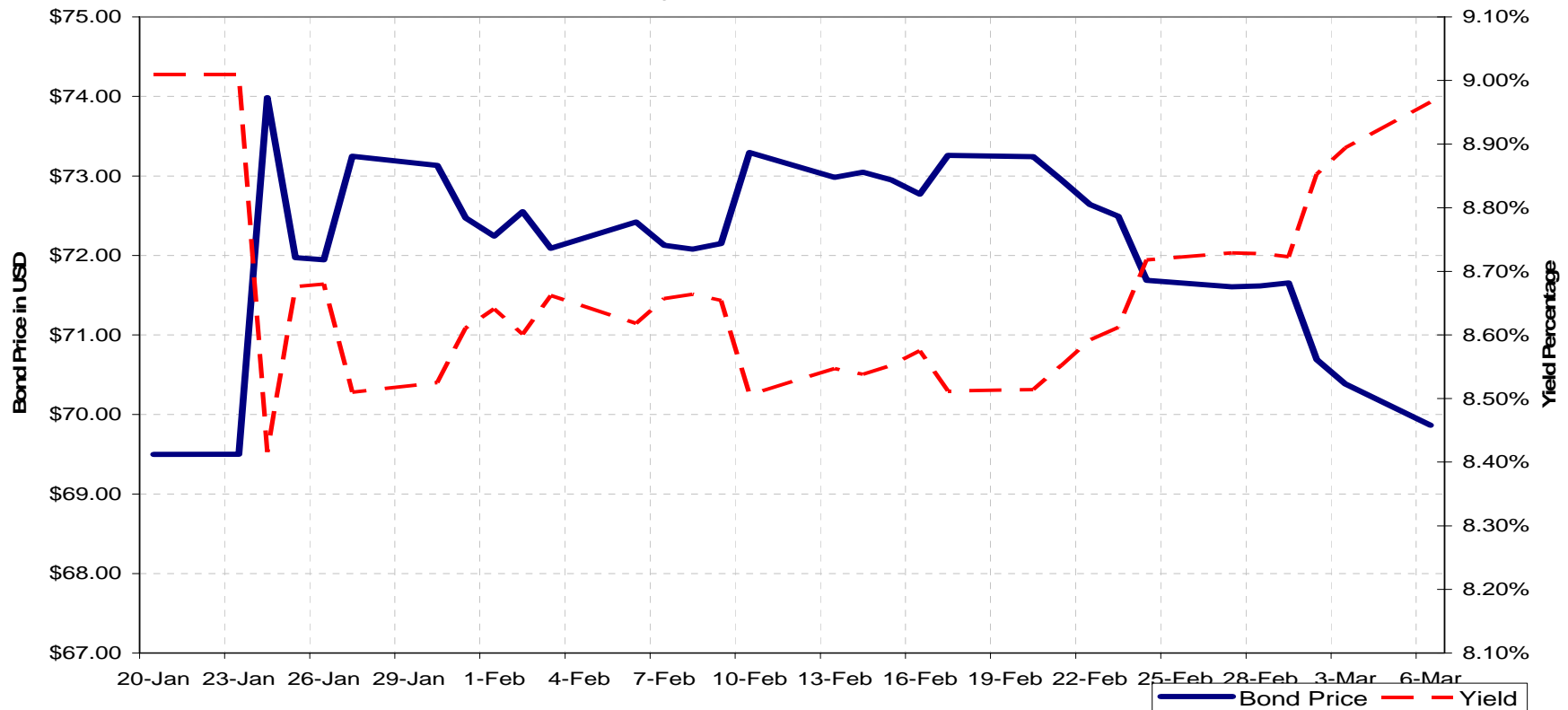


## [5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Securities Markets

### Trade of Iraqi Bonds on the International Secondary Bond Market:

- The following table shows the daily bond resale price and yield on Iraq bonds issued January 20. The bonds were originally issued to about two-thirds of Iraq's commercial creditors to repay 20 percent of Iraq's \$22 billion in commercial debt. The bonds, which are not yet rated, will mature in 2028. These are the only Iraqi sovereign debt instruments trading on the international market. With a current yield of 8.97 percent, it is slightly lower than Ecuador and Argentina, but the return is still one of the highest in the world for sovereign debt instruments.

**Iraqi Commercial Bond Sales**  
January 20, 2006 - March 6, 2006





## [5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

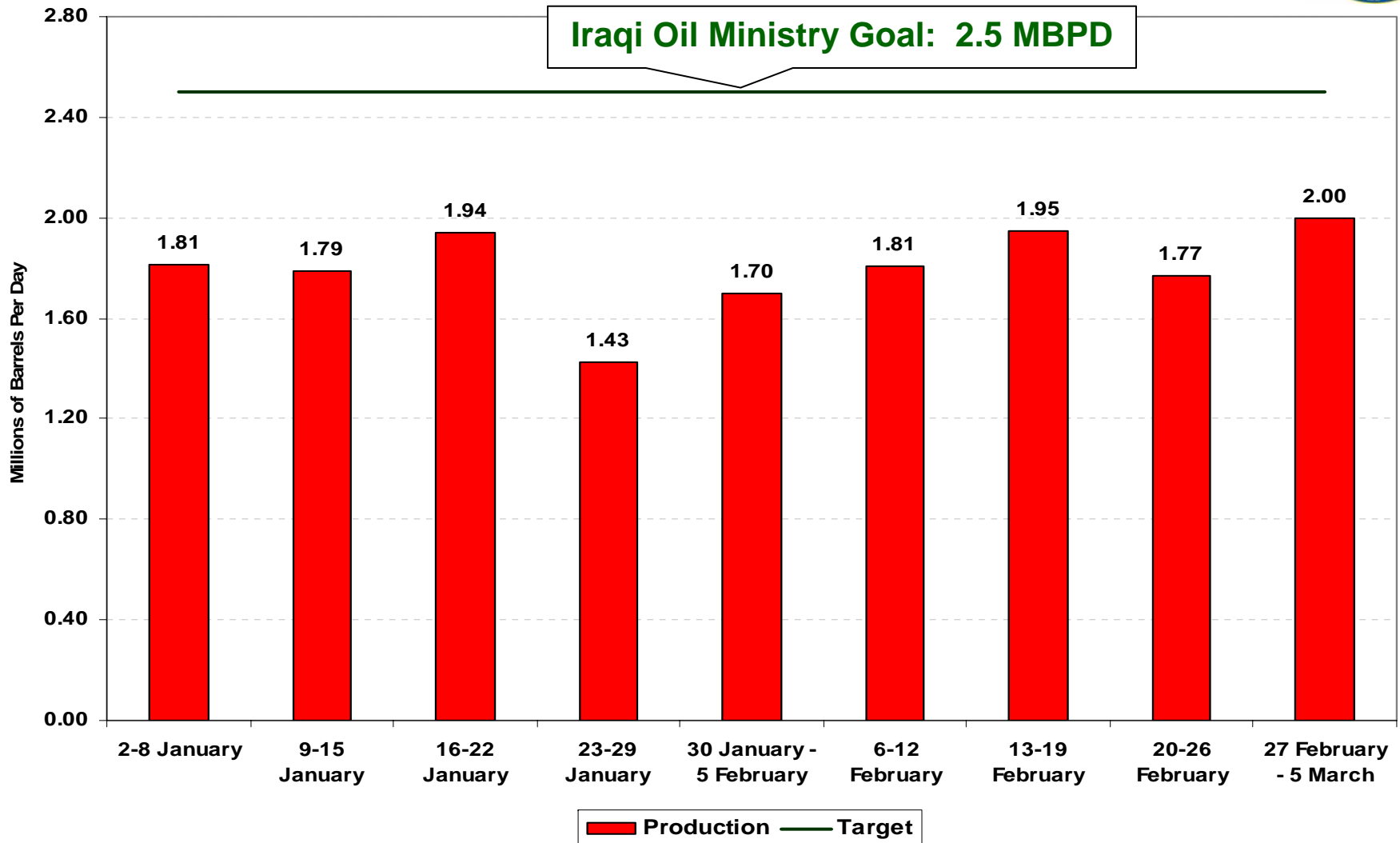
### Korea and Sweden Sign Debt Reduction Agreements with Iraq:

- South Korea and Sweden both signed bilateral agreements with Iraq on March 6 implementing an 80 percent debt reduction under the Paris Club Agreement. Iraq owes Korea approximately \$212 million, of which \$170 million will be cancelled in three tranches. Iraq owes Sweden \$338 million of which \$270 million will be forgiven under the Paris Club Agreement.

### Financial Management Information System:

- Training is nearing completion for government units responsible for over 95 percent of federal spending on the Financial Management Information System (FMIS). The FMIS is a computerized budget implementation system that will increase budget discipline and transparency. USAID partners have already trained and equipped 56 government units, responsible for 85 percent of all government of Iraq (GOI) expenditures.

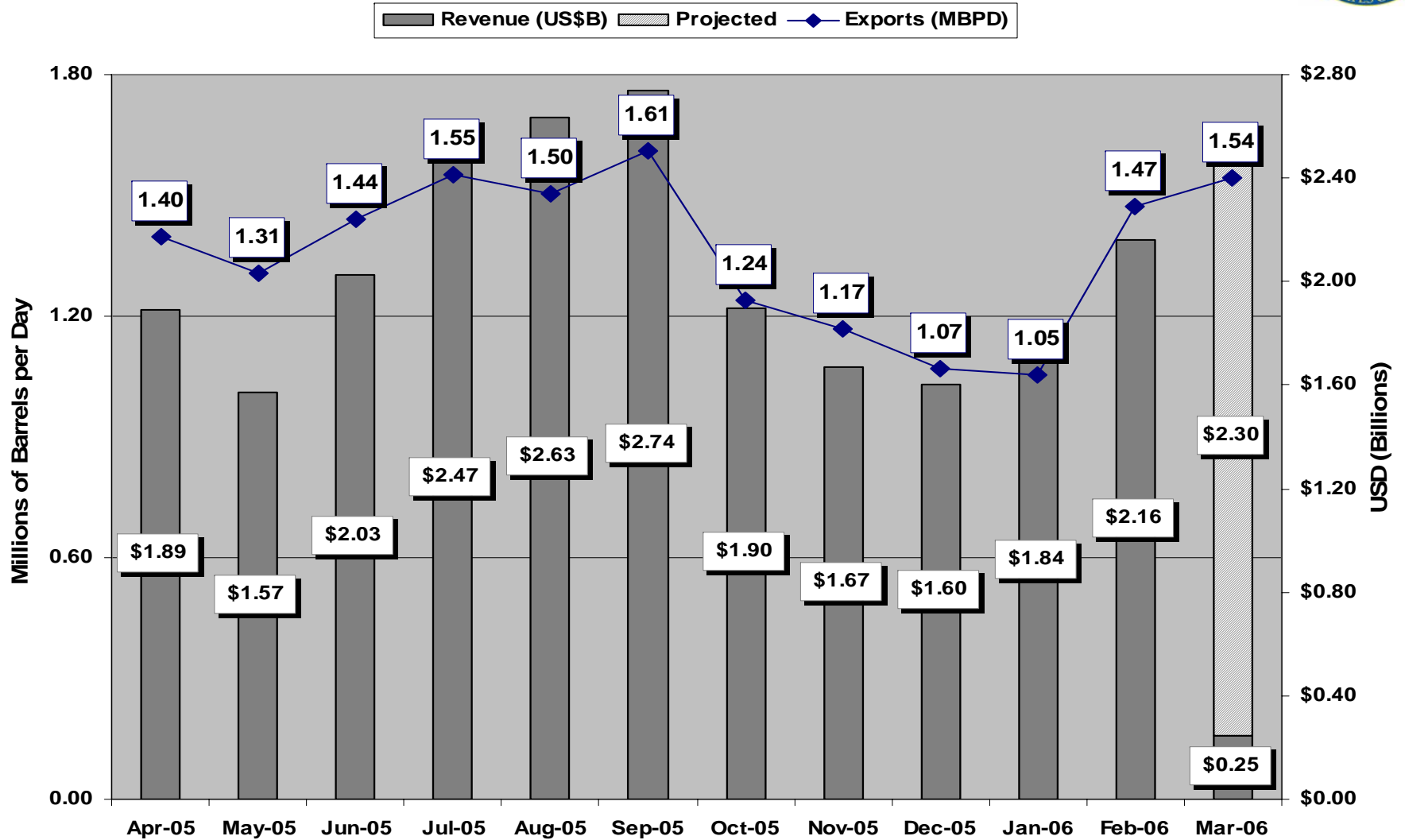
## [5.0] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Crude Oil Production



- Weekly Average (February 27 – March 5) of 2.0 Million Barrels Per Day (MBPD)



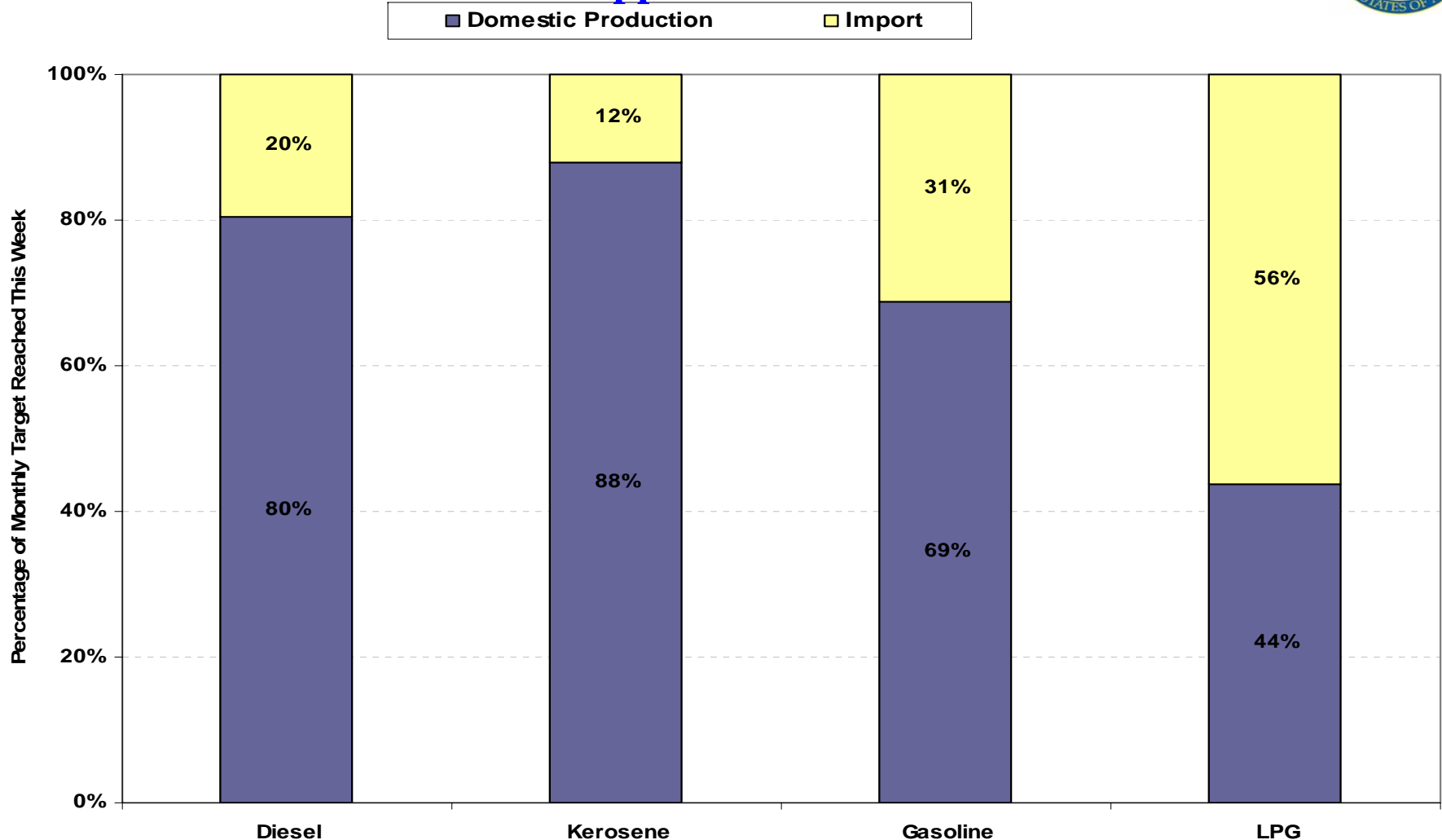
## [5.0] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Crude Oil Export



- 2005 Revenue: \$23.5 B
- 2006 Revenue: \$4.2 B (Year to Date)

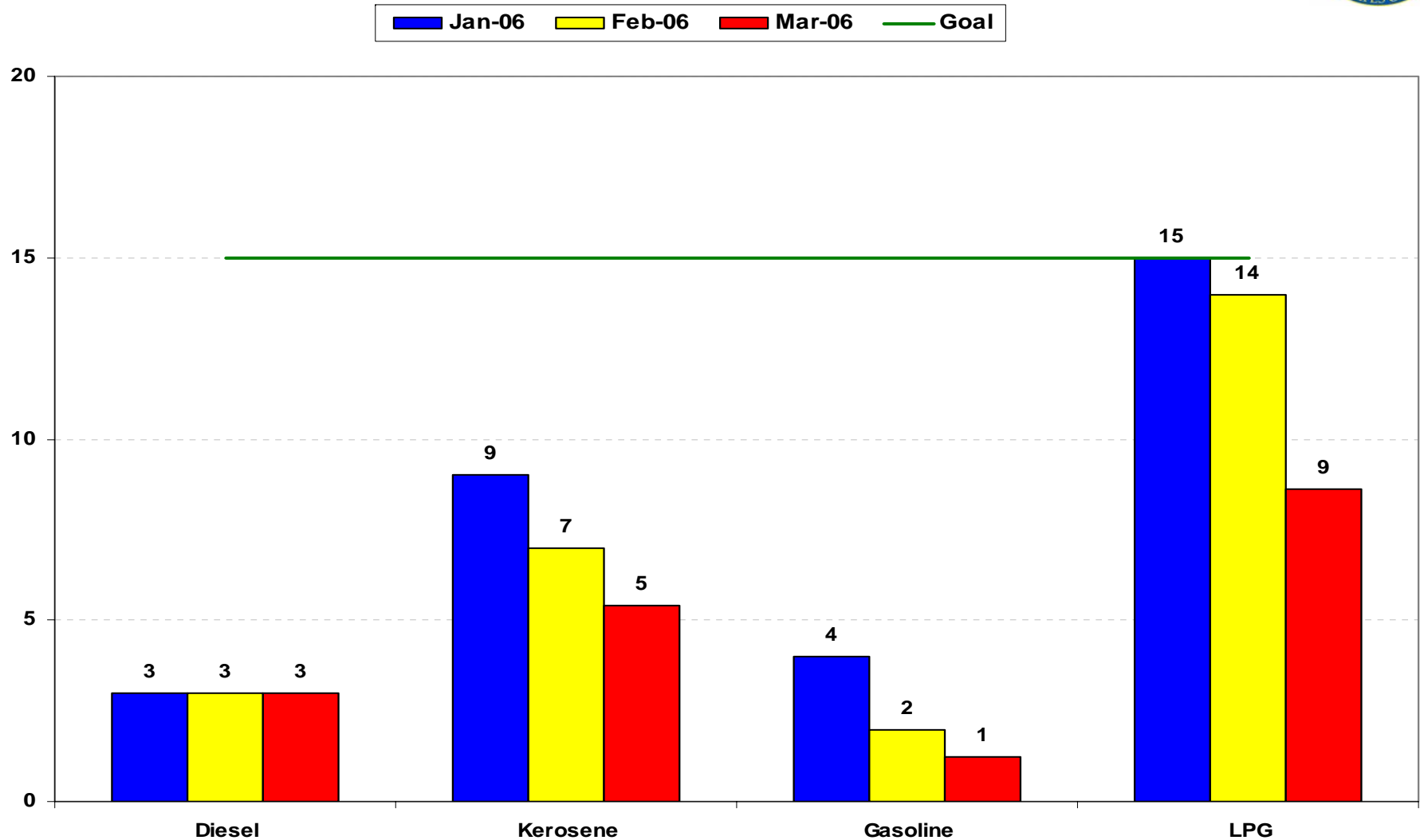


## [5.0] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Total Critical Refined Product Supplies



- Diesel: 11.4 ML supply of 20.6 ML target
- Kerosene: 6.7 ML supply of 10.5 ML target
- Gasoline: 11.2 ML supply of 23.4 ML target
- LPG: 2,594 tons supply of 4,400 tons target

## [5.0] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – National Stock Levels

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- The goal is to have on hand 15 days supply of all refined products, calculated on the basis of maximum consumption over the year and not adjusted for seasonal variation. The numbers given above are monthly averages.



## [6.0] Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights– Iraqi Judicial System

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### Hussein Admits to Ordering Destruction of Dujail:

- Saddam Hussein has said he alone should be tried for Iraqi government actions in Dujail in 1982 and acknowledged that he signed orders for the destruction of orchards and farmland after the failed assassination attempt on him. Those actions were part of widespread government retribution against people considered linked to the plot. "Saddam Hussein is telling you he is responsible," said the former Iraqi president, who told the court on March 1 that others should not be blamed for actions he authorized. After the March 1 session the court adjourned until March 12.





## [7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

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### Arab League Opening Offices in Baghdad:

- The Arab League will open offices in Iraq as part of its efforts to help reconcile the country's Sunni Arab, Shiite and Kurdish communities, Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa said March 5. The League is planning to sponsor a second reconciliation conference in Baghdad in June. The League representation office is expected to be opened by the time of the conference and will be headed by the Moroccan diplomat Mukhtar Lamani.

### UN Supports Iraqi Leaders in Quelling Violence:

- The United Nations has strongly condemned the continuing violent attacks in Iraq and Secretary-General Kofi Annan's Special Representative Ashraf Qazi appealed to the country's leaders in the following statements: "I am encouraged by the positive measures announced by the Iraq Government in reaction to the crisis; however, despite the constructive response, the situation threatens to further deteriorate. Accordingly, I call upon the leaders of Iraq to intensify their efforts to adopt measures to stop the violence and promote national accord. The United Nations stands ready to actively assist in this crucial endeavor and will continue to meet with community, religious, and political leaders to ensure the country steadfastly turns away from the brink."



## [7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

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### Australia Promises Troops into 2007:

- Australian Defense Minister Brendan Nelson reported that Australian troops will remain in southern Iraq until the middle of 2007. Nelson said, "We will not cut and run until our job is complete and the Iraqi Security Forces can provide protection for their own people."

### Polish Ambassador Reiterates Intent to Support PRT:

- During a February 26 meeting with IRMO Chief of Staff and IRMO Deputy Director for Civil-Military Regional Operations, the Polish Ambassador re-stated Poland's intent to support a Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT). Further, Warsaw is open to discussing maintaining its presence in Iraq beyond 2006.



## [7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – Contributors to Iraqi Stability Operations

Data as of March 8, 2006

### 26 Countries with forces in Iraq (in addition to US)

Albania	El Salvador	Lithuania	Romania
Armenia	Estonia	Macedonia	Slovakia
Australia	Georgia	Moldova	South Korea
Azerbaijan	Italy	Mongolia	Ukraine
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Japan	Netherlands	UK
Czech Republic	Kazakhstan	Poland	
Denmark	Latvia	Portugal	

**TOTAL ~ 20,000 Forces**

\*Note: Fiji participating as a part of the UN mission in Iraq.

**29 Countries and NATO\***  
(including US)  
**Support Iraqi Stability Operations**

\*29 includes the 26 countries listed above, the US, Fiji, and Singapore.



## [8.0] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – **Developments**

### Strategic Communications:

- In an interview with the Los Angeles Times on March 7, Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad said that "For now, Iraq has pulled back from [civil war] after the wave of sectarian reprisals that followed the February 22 bombing of a Shiite Muslim shrine in Samarra. If another incident [occurs], Iraq is really vulnerable to it at this time, in my judgment. We have opened the Pandora's box and the question is, what is the way forward? The way forward, in my view, is an effort to build bridges across [Iraq's] communities." Khalilzad's central message has been that the United States cannot immediately pull out of Iraq jibed with Bush administration policy.
  - The Samarra bombing and the subsequent outbreak of violent reprisals by Shiites against Sunni Muslims demonstrated that insurgents fully understand Iraq's fragility and will seek to exploit it, Khalilzad said. "It indicates that they recognize this vulnerability of Iraq or this problem in Iraq, which they have tried to fan. There is a concerted effort to provoke civil war. The guys who want to start a civil war are there looking or considering other things they could do." Khalilzad [stated] that the best way to prevent civil war or large-scale sectarian violence is to form a government drawing from all of Iraq's disparate groups as a way "to build trust and narrow the fault line that exists" between Shiites and Sunnis. "Once a national unity government is formed, the effort to provoke a civil war will face a huge obstacle."



## [8.0] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – **Developments**

### Strategic Communications:

- On Fox News Sunday, Chairman Joint Chiefs Of Staff Gen. Peter Pace stated that the Iraqi response after attacks “shows great promise for the future. I think that the response of the yet-forming Iraqi government to this most recent attack on the sacred mosque shows great promise for the future. Here you have a government that's not even fully formed yet. They're facing a terrorist act of a magnitude that you can't even imagine, that they would take on a sacred facility like that, and the police and the security forces and the government itself responds pretty well. So I think that the Iraqi people – Kurds, Shia, Sunni – walked up to the abyss, took the look in, didn't like what they saw, have pulled together, have pulled back from violence, and are working together to keep things calm and to find the right mix for their own government.”
- During Meet the Press on March 5, Chairman Peter Pace also stated that the Iraqi Security Forces have seen dramatic improvement: “You look at the military side where this time last year there were just a handful of battalions in the field, Iraqi battalions in the field. Now there are over 100 battalions in the field. They had no brigades—that’s about 3,000 men each. Now they’ve got about 31 brigades. No matter where you look at their military, their police, their society, things are much better this year than they were last.”



## Iraq Weekly Status – General Information

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- This brief draws from multiple sources. References are cited on the following pages.
- Please forward all questions and/or comments to [NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov](mailto:NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov)



## Notes and Source Citations (1 of 4)

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### Slide 5:

- American Forces Information Service News Articles, Mar. 6, 2006: [http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Mar2006/20060306\\_4409.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Mar2006/20060306_4409.html)
- American Forces Information Service News Articles, Mar. 3, 2006: [http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Mar2006/20060303\\_4381.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Mar2006/20060303_4381.html)

### Slide 6:

- The Advisor – MNSTC-I: March 4, 2006
- The Advisor – MNSTC-I: March 4, 2006.

### Slide 7:

- DoD Input to Iraq Weekly Status Report 6 Mar 06

### Slide 8:

- State Department O/I Baghdad 5 March 2006
- IRAQI PRESS SUMMARY MARCH 6, 2006\_(Sharqiya)

### Slide 9:

- IECI Website [http://www.ieciraq.org/English/Frameset\\_english.htm](http://www.ieciraq.org/English/Frameset_english.htm)

### Slide 11:

- The IRRF Financial Chart is sourced from the 7 Mar 06 IRMO Weekly Status Report

### Slide 12:

- POC Tom Gramaglia, (202) 736-4065
- The chart shows average daily power production in megawatt hours (MWh). 120,000 MWh goal equates to 20 hours at 6000 MW average supplied load or 24 hours at 5000 MW average supply load. Currently supplies are not much improved over last year when judged by hours of power, but this is due in part to an influx of new appliances. This has dramatically altered demand and diluted the effect of increased generation capacity on actual results.

### Slide 13:

- Electricity:
- USACE Daily Report March 3
- PCO Weekly Highlights March 7
- Public Health and Healthcare:
- Iraq Reconstruction Update 3/1/2006



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### Slide 14:

- Water and Sanitation:
- USACE Daily Report March 6
- PCO Weekly Iraq Reconstruction Update - Feb 23
- Education:
- PCO Iraq Reconstruction Update 3/1/2006

### Slide 15:

- Communication:
- Embassy Baghdad (Contact Tom Gramaglia 202-736-4065)
- Embassy Baghdad (Contact Tom Gramaglia 202-736-4065)
- Infrastructure:
- PCO Weekly Highlights March 3

### Slide 16:

- Oil Prices:
- Oil Prices are sourced from Bloomberg
- Employment Update:
- Information regarding the Employment Update was sourced from the IRMO Weekly Report – March 7, 2006
- CERP has not reported figures for some time. Until they report accurate data, the number will remain at 0.
- PCO will be reporting on a bi-weekly basis.

### Slide 17:

- Information regarding the NID auction was gathered from the Central Bank of Iraq's website: <http://www.cbiraq.org>

### Slide 18:

- Bond Prices:
- Iraqi Bond Prices are sourced from Bloomberg

### Slide 19:

- Information regarding the Customs Modernization Plan was sourced from the USAID Update to the Weekly Status Report – March 3, 2006





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**Slide 20:**

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690, Iraq Petroleum Sector Facts

**Slide 21:**

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690

**Slide 22:**

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690

**Slide 23:**

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690



## Notes and Source Citations (4 of 4)

### Slide 24:

- Aneesh Raman, Hussein: I ordered farms razed,  
<http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/meast/03/01/saddam.trial/index.html>

### Slide 25:

- [http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/E/EGYPT\\_ARAB\\_LEAGUE?SITE=OKPON&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/E/EGYPT_ARAB_LEAGUE?SITE=OKPON&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT), “Arab League Says It Will Open Office in Iraq for First Time Since 2003 U.S.-Led Invasion”
- <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=17671&Cr=Iraq&Cr1=>, Iraq: UN calls on leaders to step back from brink, deplores civilian deaths

### Slide 26:

- Michele Siders, US State Department, 202-647-7227

### Slide 27:

- DOD Input to Weekly Status Report 01 Feb 06-Report is updated bi-weekly

### Slide 28:

- Los Angeles Times, “Envoy to Iraq Sees Threat of Wider War” March 7

### Slide 29:

- (Fox News’ “Fox News Sunday,” 3/5/06)
- (NBC’s Meet The Press, 3/05/06)