ST A T E M E N T

by the Spokesperson on the election of the Speakers
of the Iraqi Council of Representatives

"We welcome the election of a new Speaker and first and second deputy Speakers of the Iraqi Council of Representatives and congratulate Salim al-Juburi, Haider al-Ebadi, and Aram al-Sheikh Mohamed respectively on their election. This is a positive step in the direction of a political solution in Iraq, which is essential to counter the terrorist threat and to overcome the present crisis.

The EU calls on all Iraq's political leaders to work towards the speedy formation of a new government under a leadership seeking national participation and broad national reconciliation.

The EU continues to be deeply concerned about the security situation in Iraq, which threatens the stability of Iraq and the region and has resulted in a serious humanitarian crisis. It reiterates its firm commitment to Iraq's unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity."

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