



**Convention on the Elimination
of All Forms of Discrimination
against Women**

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(CEDAW)

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES UNDER
ARTICLE 18 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL
FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Second and third periodic reports of States parties

The Republic of Iraq*

* For the initial report submitted by the Republic of Iraq, see CEDAW/C/5/Add.66/Rev.1; for its consideration by the Committee, see CEDAW/C/SR.212, CEDAW/C/SR.213 and CEDAW/C/SR.216 and Official Records of the General Assembly, Forth-eighth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/48/38), paras. 33-86.



SECOND AND THIRD PERIODIC REPORTS OF IRAQ ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

(August 1998)

INTRODUCTION

Iraq ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by Law 66/1986 of 28 June 1986. Its initial report (CEDAW/C/5/Add.66/Rev.1), on the implementation of the Convention from its ratification to the end of 1989, outlined the measures taken by Iraq to eliminate all forms of discrimination between men and women in all social, economic, cultural and civil fields. It was discussed by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its sixteenth session during its 212th, 213th and 216th meetings, held on 20 and 22 January 1993.

It is difficult to speak of a country's implementation of the Convention in isolation from the circumstances in which that country finds itself. As is well known, an embargo was imposed on Iraq eight years ago and the country continues to be the object of most heinous crimes that have affected all segments of society, including women. Many reports, emanating from impartial international humanitarian agencies, have indicated the magnitude of the impact the embargo has had on all classes of the Iraqi people. Many have characterized it as genocide, which has been outlawed by a whole range of international covenants including, merely by way of example, the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

The Government of Iraq has nevertheless endeavoured to take numerous steps for the advancement of Iraqi women, the most recent of which has been the adoption of a national strategy for that purpose and the formation of the High-level National Committee for the Advancement of Iraqi Women under the chairmanship of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and with the participation of the under-secretaries at a number of other relevant ministries and of the General Federation of Iraqi Women.

The present report was prepared in accordance with the guidelines for the preparation of reports by States parties issued by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its sixteenth session, held from 13 to 31 January 1997 (CEDAW/C/7/Rev.3). The questions raised and comments made during the Committee's discussion of Iraq's initial report were also taken into account. The Government of Iraq is continuing its endeavours to maintain equality between the sexes, to strengthen the role of women in society and to contribute to international efforts to those ends.

PART I

Article 1

For the purposes of the present Convention, the term "discrimination against women" shall mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

Throughout history, women in Iraq have been accorded special consideration with a view to strengthening their role in society, safeguarding their dignity and protecting their rights. From the time of mankind's first laws and legal codes, Iraq has shown concern for women, providing them with legal protection against the derogation of their rights and the debasement of their value as human beings. This is embodied in those provisions of the Code of Hammurabi that affirm the full legal capacity of women. The Code contains provisions to protect the wife and safeguard her financial and human rights, and it affirms the rights of daughters with respect to the estate of their parents. It affirms the right of women to have financial responsibility that is independent of that of their husbands, and it accords them the right to own property, to engage in trade, to make contracts, to have free disposal of their financial assets and to hold high office.

Islamic law, in turn, establishes equality of social rights between men and women and accords women rights with respect to independent political participation. Thus Almighty God commands his Prophet to take the oath of allegiance from women independently of men, and the Islamic Shariah makes men and women equal with respect to the dissolution of marriage and the right to study. It accords women complete independence in respect of rights, the right to own property in its widest sense and the right to have free disposal of their assets.

The Republic of Iraq is situated in South-West Asia, and it is bordered by Turkey in the north, Iran in the east, the Syrian Arab Republic, Jordan and Saudi Arabia in the west and the Arabian Gulf, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in the south. It covers an area of 435,052 square kilometres. According to the 1997 census, its population is 22,017,983, of whom 10,940,764 are males and 11,077,219 are females, so that females account for 50.3 per cent. In 1988, the population was estimated to be 17,250,000, of whom 8,864,000 were males and 8,386,000 were females, so that females then accounted for 48.6 per cent.

One half of Iraq's inhabitants are thus females. Discrimination against women is not in the interests of social development and impedes the implementation of development plans. The elimination of discrimination against women is therefore a fundamental task and will require the concerted efforts of all, a political will that is informed and aware of the dimensions of the issue and the elaboration of relevant, professionally competent and realistic plans. It is this that will be addressed in detail in the present report.

The peremptory constitutional norm relevant to the elimination of discrimination against women is that embodied in article 19 of the Constitution promulgated on 16 July 1970, which reads as follows:

- "(a) Citizens are equal before the law without discrimination on grounds of sex, race, language, social origin or religion.

- "(b) Equal opportunities for all citizens shall be guaranteed within the limits of the law."

Law 191/1975 makes men and women equal in respect of financial rights and privileges, and the Law for the Reform of the Legal System (35/1977) had the purpose of replacing laws and enactments in effect in such a way as to create a new society based on equality. The particulars on this were presented in Iraq's initial report.

Article 2

States Parties condemn discrimination against women in all its forms, agree to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women and, to this end, undertake:

- (a) *To embody the principle of the equality of men and women in their national constitutions or other appropriate legislation if not yet incorporated therein and to ensure, through law and other appropriate means, the practical realization of this principle;*
- (b) *To adopt appropriate legislative and other measures, including sanctions where appropriate, prohibiting all discrimination against women;*
- (c) *To establish legal protection of the rights of women on an equal basis with men and to ensure through competent national tribunals and other public institutions the effective protection of women against any act of discrimination;*
- (d) *To refrain from engaging in any act or practice of discrimination against women and to ensure that public authorities and institutions shall act in conformity with this obligation;*
- (e) *To take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women by any person, organisation or enterprise;*
- (f) *To take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices which constitute discrimination against women;*
- (g) *To repeal all national penal provisions which constitute discrimination against women.*

There is nothing to add to the information provided in Iraq's initial report. We refer in this context to Iraq's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by its Law 3/1994 and to the fact that it deposited its instrument of ratification with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 15 June 1994. In accordance with the Secretary-General's note No. 1994/235, of 6 September 1994, it entered into force for Iraq on 15 July 1994.

Article 3

States Parties shall take in all fields, in particular in the political, social, economic and cultural fields, all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men.

The agency concerned with the advancement of women was linked with the supreme executive authority in Iraq with effect from 4 June 1997. That agency is the High-level National Committee for the Advancement of Iraqi Women, which

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was created by the adoption of the National Strategy for the Advancement of Iraqi Women in accordance with the decisions of the 1995 Beijing Fourth World Conference on Women. It consists of representatives of the many ministries involved in activities of relevance to women and of the General Federation of Iraqi Women, a non-governmental organization, and it promotes cooperation and coordination in implementing the goals of the Strategy, as exemplified hereunder.

1. Substantive considerations

(a) The objectives, procedures and implementation mechanisms of the National Strategy for the Advancement of Iraqi Women are based on the provisions of the Iraqi Constitution, the norms of Islamic law, the cultural heritage, the values of Arab Islamic society and the principles of human rights.

(b) The role and status of women are a reflection of the state of development of a society. This requires support for the advancement of women, the enhancement of their capabilities in the community context and the elimination of manifestations of discrimination against them.

(c) The Strategy seeks to address the inhumane consequences of the blanket embargo that has been maintained against Iraq since 1990, which have had a particularly adverse impact on women and at the personal and academic levels.

(d) The Strategy focuses on addressing women's issues by striking a balance between rights and duties and stressing the complementarity of roles among the different elements of the community and the cohesion of the family as the basic unit of society.

(e) The Strategy is integrated with the social, economic, political and cultural dimensions of the overall development plan and is based on engagement with the relevant regional and international strategies while taking account of Iraq's special national and cultural characteristics.

2. Operational considerations

The Strategy was formulated with reference to issues in the following fields:

(a) Political, including: women in positions of authority and decision-making positions; and women and the armed struggle;

(b) Economic, including: women and the economy; and the burden of permanent poverty;

(c) Cultural and social, including: human rights and the elimination of violence against women; education and training for women; women and health; women and the home; and women and the information media.

The other institution concerned with women's rights is the General Federation of Iraqi Women, established by Law 139/1972. In accordance with this Law, the Federation is a public-interest institution that is a legal entity having full legal capacity and enjoying administrative and financial independence. It is a mass, democratic organization representing all the women of Iraq without discrimination.

The Federation seeks to achieve objectives in the national, inter-Arab and international domains, and details of those objectives were given in Iraq's initial report. It has made frequent contributions to international conferences on women, and this topic will be addressed below in connection with article 8 of the Convention.

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The Federation also publishes literature and studies as well as the magazine Al-Mar'ah ("Woman"), which deals with women's issues in all fields. It has been appearing since 1969, and its 255th issue had appeared by the time the present report was prepared. Because of the conditions created by the embargo, however, it has begun to appear only on such occasions as women's festivals.

Concurrently, the Federation engages in information programmes reflecting its objectives and programmes. They include:

The women's page in the newspaper Al-Qadisiyah, which focuses on topics of concern to women in today's society;

"Ma'ki" ("With You"), a daily radio programme that discusses issues of interest to women, girls and children;

"Ishtar", a weekly radio programme focusing on the educational interests of women;

"Afaq al-Mar'ah" ("Women's Horizons"), a programme on Iraq Television;

"Shams al-Afiyah" ("Sun of Health"), a daily radio programme for women and families.

The Federation also participates extensively with ministries and government departments in such activities as health education, in programmes implemented by the Ministry of Health, and in surveys. It organizes meetings with women to acquaint them with their rights and duties and with the laws and enactments that guarantee their human dignity. The Federation has interested itself in women's participation in employment, and in 1997 it contributed to the hiring of 1,103 women. It has offered many courses and seminars for the training of women.

There is also a General Federation of Farmers' Associations and a Family Planning Association.

Article 4

1. *Adoption by States Parties of temporary special measures aimed at accelerating de facto equality between men and women shall not be considered discrimination as defined in the present Convention, but shall in no way entail as a consequence the maintenance of unequal or separate standards; these measures shall be discontinued when the objectives of equality of opportunity and treatment have been achieved.*

2. *Adoption by States Parties of special measures, including those measures contained in the present Convention, aimed at protecting maternity shall not be considered discriminatory.*

There are no special measures aimed at accelerating the elimination of discrimination between men and women. The relevant measures are permanent and are adopted in accordance with established legislative procedures. The Strategy previously referred to has the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the annual plans for the advancement of women.

Article 5

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures:

(a) *To modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women,*

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with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women;

(b) To ensure that family education includes a proper understanding of maternity as a social function and the recognition of the common responsibility of men and women in the upbringing and development of their children, it being understood that the interest of the children is the primordial consideration in all cases.

The social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women cannot be modified by means of legislation or by administrative measures taken for this purpose but only through an understanding of the role of women and of their importance in all areas and at all levels.

In modern Iraq, women have achieved great progress with regard to their large-scale entry into all fields of employment and of political life. This has been especially so since the Glorious Revolution of 17 to 30 July 1968 accorded women special significance and affirmed the importance of their role in building an integrated society by opening to them every prospect for progress and development, thus ensuring their full rights and meeting the requirements of the social, economic, cultural and political developments under way in accordance with the humanitarian concepts and values on which Iraqi society is based.

Owing to the support and encouragement given to women by the President and Leader, Mr. Saddam Hussein (May God keep and preserve him), and because of his faith in the importance of their role in society and his affirmation of their human value as equal to that of men, women have begun to occupy more important positions in practical life in all economic, social and political fields and there has been a notable increase in the numbers of women in all areas of public life as well as in senior posts. Women in Iraq have every possible opportunity to develop their academic, cultural and personal capacities and to equip themselves to rise to the highest offices and posts and secure for themselves an active role in Iraqi society. Working women are granted paid maternity leave of one year and may obtain further leave to care for their children, and they are entitled to one hour a day to nurse their infants while at work. Day-care centres and kindergartens are available in all residential areas and places of work, and special medical and mother-and-child care services are to be found even in remote areas. The concern for women shown by the President and Leader, Mr. Saddam Hussein (May God keep and preserve him), has also found expression in the support he has given to the General Federation of Iraqi Women as a national non-governmental organization and advisory body on women's issues.

The concern of the Glorious Revolution of 17 to 30 July 1968 for the development of women has had its counterpart in the results of the international women's conferences held since 1975. Iraqi women took an active part in these conferences, and Iraq has taken important international initiatives. We refer in particular to the Conference on the role of women in the development of the non-aligned countries and the other developing countries, held in Baghdad from 6 to 13 May 1979, whose programme of action was endorsed by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (the second world conference on women), held in Copenhagen in 1980, and to the Baghdad international seminar on human rights of 1994, as well as to Iraq's contributions to other relevant regional and international meetings.

The challenges with which Iraq has been confronted have, however, severely affected the advancement of Iraqi women. They are exemplified in the eight-year Iranian aggression against Iraq from 1980 to 1988 and the 30-Power aggression of January 1991 in which all types of weapons were used, even those

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that are internationally prohibited.

Over and above the physical destruction and human suffering caused by the military operations, which increased the burdens of Iraqi women and left a psychological, physical and social imprint on them, the perpetuation of the plight caused by the comprehensive embargo imposed on Iraq in 1990 has brought about a major diminution in the role of women and in their contributions to public life and has undermined their achievements and the progress they had made in academic, occupational, social and economic terms. This is incompatible with the resolutions adopted by the world conferences on women, which have stressed the commitment of the international community to improving the situation of women and enhancing their academic, occupational and social standing. The difficult economic conditions created by the comprehensive embargo have also forced large numbers of Iraqi women to abandon the academic life and devote themselves to domestic work in order to cope with the ever greater burdens of daily life and secure the daily requirements of the family and, in particular, of the children.

The adverse impact on women's physical and mental health of the embargo being maintained against Iraq is abundantly clear from the daily suffering caused by the shortage of food and medicine and the lack of the humanitarian supplies needed by families and by women in particular. At a press conference in Geneva in March 1996, the Assistant Regional Director of the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean said that the health situation in Iraq had been set back 50 years. This has also been confirmed by the reports of other United Nations specialized agencies and of the humanitarian organizations that have visited Iraq.

The adverse consequences of the maintenance of the comprehensive embargo against Iraq have drawn the attention of the international community to the serious character of this measure. In his report entitled "Supplement to An Agenda for Peace", the Secretary-General of the United Nations refers to the ethical and legal aspects of the imposition of sanctions and to the fact that they may conflict with the objectives of the Organization. He also speaks of the need to take measures to limit the adverse humanitarian effects of sanctions on vulnerable groups. The 1995 Beijing Fourth World Conference on Women also called for measures to be taken in accordance with international law to mitigate the impact of such consequences on women and children.

Article 6

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to suppress all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of prostitution of women.

Iraq has acceded to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, approved by the United Nations General Assembly on 2 December 1949, and it entered into force for Iraq on 22 December 1955. Pursuant to the Convention, prostitution was prohibited by Law 54/1958.

After the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women had entered into force, a new law was enacted to combat prostitution and procurement. Article 3 of this law establishes a penalty of imprisonment for a period of not more than seven years for whoever engages in procurement or uses premises for that purpose; article 4 provides that a woman who is proved to have engaged in prostitution shall be confined to a reformatory of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs; article 5 establishes for whoever forcibly detains a person, male or female, for purposes of prostitution or sodomy a penalty of 10 years in prison where the victim is over the age of 18 and not more than 15 years where the victim is

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under 18 as well as court-awarded compensation for the victim in either case; and article 9 stipulates that the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs shall establish in the locations it deems necessary a sufficient number of reformatories for the guidance and reform of prostitutes by means of programmes for their behavioural, cultural and occupational rehabilitation with a view to enabling them to make an honest living, and it requires the Ministry to designate a special section in the department for the reform of adults and juveniles to house males convicted of prostitution.

Ordinance 4/1991, the Ordinance for the Reform of Women in Detention, was issued pursuant to the law in question. It establishes the manner in which reformatories will be operated with regard to such matters as education, vocational instruction, food, clothing and the wages to be paid to detainees for assigned work. The purpose is to correct the behaviour of detainees, rehabilitate them in social, occupational and educational terms and provide them with appropriate employment on completing their term of detention.

PART II

Article 7

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the political and public life of the country and, in particular, shall ensure to women, on equal terms with men, the right:

(a) To vote in all elections and public referenda and to be eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies;

Despite the circumstances in which the country finds itself because of the embargo that has been maintained against it for more than eight years, the political rights of Iraqi women have not been affected and they continue to participate in all elections and referenda and in the formulation and implementation of government policy. Any diminution in the role of women is due to the embargo and to their preoccupation with shouldering the burdens of the household. There are no special political parties for women.

(b) To participate in the formulation of government policy and the implementation thereof and to hold public office and perform all public functions at all levels of government;

Women continue to participate in the formulation and implementation of policy, to hold public office in all Iraqi government ministries and official institutions and to occupy a significant number of posts in government departments. Table 1 shows the numbers of male and female civil servants in Iraq and the percentage of women in the total number. Women also participate in the Iraqi parliament, and there are 17 women members who play a role alongside men in the deliberations of the National Assembly and in the decisions it adopts.

(c) To participate in non-governmental organizations and associations concerned with the public and political life of the country.

Iraqi women participate on equal terms with men in non-governmental organizations and associations and in trade unions. In 1997, for example: some 2,000 of the 9,200 lawyers enrolled in the Iraqi Bar Association, or 21 per cent, were women; 25,000 of the 29,379 teachers in the Iraqi Teachers Union, or 65 per cent, were women; 200,000 of the 1.1 million workers in the General Confederation of Labour Unions, or 20 per cent, were women; and 47 per cent of all women in Iraq belonged to the General Federation of Iraqi Women and the number of members in the 15-to-49 age group in 1997 was 1,110,182.

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Article 8

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to ensure to women, on equal terms with men and without any discrimination, the opportunity to represent their Governments at the international level and to participate in the work of international organizations.

The Government of Iraq has endeavoured to include women in its representation at formal sessions of conferences and international meetings. A large number of women from all Iraqi ministries and official institutions participated in many of the international conferences held in various countries of the world prior to August 1990. The circumstances created by the embargo that has been maintained against Iraq since that time and the shortfall it has caused in the country's financial resources have brought about a corresponding reduction in the participation of women and, indeed, of men in such international conferences.

The General Federation of Iraqi Women, as previously stated, was established by Law 139/1972 as a mass, democratic, non-governmental organization representing the women of Iraq without distinction as to race, language, social origin or religion. In the circumstances created by the embargo imposed on Iraq, it has been almost the only body of its kind to participate in events at the international level in recent years. It has thus taken part in the following international forums:

The 1995 Beijing Conference, where it presented 14 studies and papers on numerous topics relating to women, including: women and peace and development; women in Iraq under the embargo; the damage done to the environment in Iraq; violence against women; and the National Strategy for the Advancement of Iraqi Women to the Year 2005;

A 1995 regional seminar on the development of leadership skills, negotiating strategies and coordination with Arab official delegations;

The first regional consultation, held in Amman in 1996;

The 1996 Madrid conference on lifting the embargo against Iraq;

The fourth Asian conference on the exploitation and oppression of children, held in India in 1997;

The general Arab feminist encounter, held in Libya in 1997;

The second congress of peoples of the United Nations, held in Italy in 1997.

Article 9

1. States Parties shall grant women equal rights with men to acquire, change or retain their nationality. They shall ensure in particular that neither marriage to an alien nor change of nationality by the husband during marriage shall automatically change the nationality of the wife, render her stateless or force upon her the nationality of the husband.

2. States Parties shall grant women equal rights with men with respect to the nationality of their children.

The Iraqi Nationality Law (43/1961), is based on a number of general principles. The most important is that the members of a family should all have the same nationality and that none should have dual nationality or lose their nationality. This is because of the consequences of such a situation

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for family unity and family rights and obligations. Iraq's reservations as to both paragraphs of article 9 of the Convention stem from its desire to avoid prejudicing family unity and shared interests.

Article 12 of the law provides that:

1. A foreign woman who marries an Iraqi man acquires Iraqi nationality from the date approval is given by the Minister of the Interior. She may renounce it within three years of the death of her husband or her repudiation or the dissolution of the marriage. She forfeits her Iraqi nationality as of the date of her application to renounce it.

The Minister of the Interior may exempt her from the residence requirements where the legal conditions are met for the acquisition of Iraqi nationality by birth.

2. Where a woman has forfeited her Iraqi nationality by acquiring the nationality of her foreign husband she may re-acquire Iraqi nationality if her foreign husband is granted Iraqi nationality or if she marries a person having Iraqi nationality. Such nationality is restored to her as of the date she submits the relevant application.

Article 13 of the law provides that:

1. When a foreign national acquires Iraqi nationality, his minor children also become Iraqi citizens.

2. When an Iraqi father forfeits Iraqi nationality, so do his minor children.

A minor whose Iraqi nationality lapses under this provision may re-acquire it by submitting an application to do so while present in Iraq within one year of attaining his majority.

PART III

Article 10

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in order to ensure to them equal rights with men in the field of education and in particular to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women:

(a) The same conditions for career and vocational guidance, for access to studies and for the achievement of diplomas in educational establishments of all categories in rural as well as in urban areas; this equality shall be ensured in pre-school, general, technical, professional and higher technical education, as well as in all types of vocational training;

The laws, regulations and ordinances relating to education in Iraq do not discriminate between men and women but observe the principle of equality from kindergarten up to post-graduate university studies. The Compulsory Education Law (118/1976) states that education is compulsory and free of charge for children of both sexes from 6 to 10 years of age, up to the end of the elementary stage. Girls are free to leave school thereafter with the approval of their parents or guardians. The State does not discriminate between the sexes in its policy with respect to admission to the various branches and special fields of higher education or with regard to advanced studies, opportunities for study abroad or academic fellowships.

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1. Kindergartens

The percentage share of girls in kindergarten enrolment was 47.7 in 1988 and rose to 48.7 in 1997 (see table 2).

2. Elementary schools

The percentage of girls among elementary-school pupils was 44.2 in the 1988/89 school year, and this level was maintained almost unchanged in the subsequent years up to 1997 (see table 3). Eighty per cent of elementary schools were coeducational in the school year 1994/95, 79 per cent in 1995/96 and 76 per cent in 1996/97 (see table 4).

3. Secondary (intermediate and preparatory) schools

Girls accounted for 38.6 per cent of enrolment in the school year 1988/89 and 39 per cent in 1996/97 (see table 5). It is to be noted that the percentage of girls remained at 39 from the time prior to the imposition of the embargo on the country in 1990/91 up to 1996/97. Because of the care and attention accorded to education this figure did not change.

When comparing this figure with that of 44 per cent for girls at the elementary level, it must be borne in mind that the reason for the lower figure for secondary schools is that girls at this educational level are considered old enough to leave school, particularly in the countryside where early marriage is common and girls work in the rural household. The difficult circumstances in which the country finds itself as a result of the imposition of the embargo have also had a major impact on standards of living and economic and social conditions, so that large numbers of girls have been forced to drop out of school and discontinue their education.

Girls' schools and mixed schools accounted for 55 per cent of all secondary schools in the 1994/95 and 1995/96 school years and 54 per cent in 1996/97 (see table 6).

4. Vocational schools

The percentage of girls among students in vocational schools in 1994/95 was 23 and the figure fell to 17.6 in 1995/96 (see table 7).

5. Teacher-training colleges

Female enrolment in teacher-training colleges was 59.7 per cent of the total in 1994 and 60.6 per cent in 1995 and 1996 (see table 8).

6. Universities

Women represented 34.3 per cent of Iraqi university students in 1994, 33.6 per cent in 1995 and 33.7 per cent in 1996 (see table 9). They accounted for 43.9 per cent of graduates of Iraqi universities in 1987 and 40.4 per cent in 1996 (see table 10). Of students pursuing post-graduate studies at Iraqi universities in 1996 28.5 per cent were women (see table 11).

(b) Access to the same curricula, the same examinations, teaching staff with qualifications of the same standard and school premises and equipment of the same quality;

A high percentage of members of the teaching staff in elementary schools are women, the figure being 70 per cent in 1994/95 and 71 per cent in 1995/96 and 1996/97 (see table 12). At the secondary level, 55 per cent of all teachers were women in 1994/95, 57 per cent in 1995/96 and 58 per cent in 1996/97 (see table 13). In vocational schools, women made up 51 per cent of

all members of the teaching staff in 1994 and 1995 and some 49 per cent in 1996 (see table 14). In teacher-training colleges, some 55 per cent of all teachers were women in 1994, 56 per cent in 1995 and 57 per cent in 1996 (see table 15). The percentage of women in the teaching faculties of the universities rose from 21.7 in 1987 to 26.9 in 1996/97 (see table 16).

(c) The elimination of any stereotyped concept of the roles of men and women at all levels and in all forms of education by encouraging coeducation and other types of education which will help to achieve this aim and, in particular, by the revision of textbooks and school programmes and the adaptation of teaching methods;

Coeducation at the elementary level is common in the towns, and 76 per cent of all elementary schools were coeducational in 1996/97. There are, however, no coeducational schools at the secondary level other than in a few remote areas where buildings and teaching staff are in short supply. On the other hand, coeducation is again widespread at the university and postgraduate levels.

The Government pursues a policy of eliminating manifestations of sexual discrimination from school programmes and from textbooks and other educational materials. Among the measures being taken in this regard is the current emphasis in school curricula on highlighting the role of women in all fields. The Government also endeavours to accord women official recognition, elevate their status in society and promote their participation in the formulation of educational policies and programmes.

Iraqi State policy does not discriminate with regard to admission to colleges and institutions of higher education, and there are no restrictions on women entering the teaching profession.

(d) The same opportunities to benefit from scholarships and other study grants;

Among members of the international community, Iraq has, of course, been noted for sending large numbers of students, both men and women, to study at overseas universities. It has always provided opportunities to students seeking to achieve their ambitions and goals. However, the embargo imposed on the country, which has now been maintained for eight years, has brought a halt to such scholarships and has curtailed opportunities to acquire greater knowledge.

(e) The same opportunities for access to programmes of continuing education, including adult and functional literacy programmes, particularly those aimed at reducing, at the earliest possible time, any gap in education existing between men and women;

After the Glorious Revolution of 17 to 30 July 1968, Iraq experienced a qualitative shift with respect to the elimination of illiteracy. The illiteracy ratio had increased and was in the order of 48 per cent for the 15-to-45 age group. The Law on the Comprehensive National Compulsory Literacy Campaign (92/1987) was enacted once the theoretical and practical groundwork for its implementation had been laid by the conferences held and the committees established in this context.

The Iraqi leadership undertook to sponsor the campaign in the belief that illiteracy was one of the greatest obstacles to the country's political and economic advancement and associated with it all the relevant State institutions and civic and occupational organizations as well as the armed forces. All the capacities of the nation and the general public were put to work and all the necessary material, scientific and human resources were made available. In the light of the splendid results achieved, the campaign evoked

the admiration of the relevant pan-Arab and international organizations and the country received a number of awards in recognition of its success in this field.

(f) The reduction of female student drop-out rates and the organization of programmes for girls and women who have left school prematurely;

Despite the efforts made by governmental authorities and non-governmental organizations to cope with the phenomenon, the figures indicate that the student drop-out rate is higher than it should normally be. This is because of the impact of the economic, scientific and cultural embargo that has been maintained against Iraq since 1990 and is still in force at the time the present report is being prepared. Its many arbitrary aspects include its application to educational supplies such as paper for printing textbooks, stationery, pencils, teaching aids and laboratory equipment. There is an increasing need for new school buildings, and those that exist function inadequately because of deficient maintenance. There are also a great number of teaching vacancies because of the circumstances created by the embargo.

Other factors have also had an impact, principally the economic factors that have adversely affected school attendance. They have exacerbated the problems experienced by many families that have undermined their interest in their children's school needs and in providing them with incentives to study as well as their ability to assume additional burdens. They have thus been impelled to seek paid employment for their children so as to increase household income and secure the basic necessities of life.

The absorption of parents and guardians in their everyday work and in extra jobs has left them insufficient time to monitor their children and to help them do their homework and stay in school. Malnutrition, inadequate health care and the spread of disease have had a manifest impact on the health of children in general and on that of schoolchildren and students in particular. This situation has reduced levels of academic attainment and lowered success rates and has promoted chronic absenteeism. Children are left in a situation of acute frustration that may have a direct and major impact on their school career and lead to its abandonment.

Other factors that promote high drop-out rates are: the community traditions in some rural areas that prevent girls from staying at school and favour their marriage once they reach the legal minimum age; intermittent absence from school for purposes of work; lack of interest on the part of parents and guardians in monitoring their children's out-of-school activities because of the reduced standard of living owing to the unjust embargo being maintained against Iraq; and the high number of pupils in each class, rendering individual attention impossible.

The number of those who dropped out of elementary school nationwide in 1996/97 was 67,409, of whom 36,386 (or 53.9 per cent) were boys and 30,823 (or 45.8 per cent) were girls.

At the intermediate level, the figure was 52,047, of whom 28,111 were boys and 23,936 were girls. This represents 5.4 per cent of boys and 8.6 per cent of girls.

At the preparatory level the figure was 9,856, of whom 3,717 were boys and 6,139 were girls. This represents 2.2 per cent of boys and 4.4 per cent of girls.

In vocational education the figure was 3,112, and there were 212 male drop-outs in the agricultural branch and 788 male and female drop-outs in the commercial branch.

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The total number of enrolled students was 4,122,621 and the total number of drop-outs was 133,224, or 3 per cent.

It should be pointed out that the circumstances created by the embargo imposed on the country have led to a rise in school drop-out rates and have thus caused illiteracy to spread in a country that was once among the pioneer promoters of mass literacy.

(g) The same opportunities to participate actively in sports and physical education;

Women in Iraq participate in sports, and sport is a required subject at all levels of education from elementary school to university. There is a women's college of physical education at Baghdad University that produces coaches and games teachers for schools and institutions of higher education. Sports clubs in Iraq have large numbers of female members, and there are also women's teams that take part in sporting competitions. Some Iraqi women athletes have won medals at regional and international championships.

[(h) Access to specific educational information to help to ensure the health and well-being of families, including information and advice on family planning.]

Article 11

1. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of employment in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, the same rights, in particular:

- (a) The right to work as an inalienable right of all human beings;**
- (b) The right to the same employment opportunities, including the application of the same criteria for selection in matters of employment;**
- (c) The right to free choice of profession and employment, the right to promotion, job security and all benefits and conditions of service and the right to receive vocational training and retraining, including apprenticeships, advanced vocational training and recurrent training;**
- (d) The right to equal remuneration, including benefits, and to equal treatment in respect of work of equal value, as well as equality of treatment in the evaluation of the quality of work;**
- (e) The right to social security, particularly in cases of retirement, unemployment, sickness, invalidity and old age and other incapacity to work, as well as the right to paid leave;**
- (f) The right to protection of health and to safety in working conditions, including the safeguarding of the function of reproduction.**

2. In order to prevent discrimination against women on the grounds of marriage or maternity and to ensure their effective right to work, States Parties shall take appropriate measures:

- (a) To prohibit, subject to the imposition of sanctions, dismissal on the grounds of pregnancy or of maternity leave and discrimination in dismissals on the basis of marital status;**
- (b) To introduce maternity leave with pay or with comparable social benefits without loss of former employment, seniority or social allowances;**

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(c) *To encourage the provision of the necessary supporting social services to enable parents to combine family obligations with work responsibilities and participation in public life, in particular through promoting the establishment and development of a network of child-care facilities;*

(d) *To provide special protection to women during pregnancy in types of work proved to be harmful to them.*

3. *Protective legislation relating to matters covered in this article shall be reviewed periodically in the light of scientific and technological knowledge and shall be revised, repealed or extended as necessary.*

Iraqi legislation guarantees the right to work to all able citizens on equal terms and with equal opportunity for all without discrimination on grounds of sex, race or language. It also provides for occupational training within the limits established by the State concerning the scope and type of employment in each occupational sector. A summary of labour legislation is given hereunder.

I. Women employed in the private, cooperative and mixed sectors

1. The Labour Code (81/1987)

The Code replaced Law 151/1970, and it contains important provisions concerning labour rights. It was enacted after the entry into force of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Article 4 of the Code addresses the right of workers to obtain a wage sufficient to meet their basic needs and enable them to support their families. In determining wages, the type and amount of work performed by the worker and the principle of equal pay for equal work, in terms of the type and quantity of work performed in similar conditions, are taken into account.

The protection of working women is covered in chapter VI, section I, of the Code, which consists of nine articles (articles 80-89). Article 80 requires the employer of a woman or of women to display a copy of the provisions concerning the protection of working women in the workplace. Article 81 stipulates that women may not be employed to perform hard labour or tasks that are harmful to health, as defined in the instructions issued by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. Hard labour thus includes: night work; work in quarries; draught and forge work; and foundry work. Article 82 prohibits overtime for expectant mothers. Article 83 stipulates that women may only be employed to do night work where perishable commodities or products are involved, but this provision does not apply to administrative work, health and recreational services and transport and communications services. Working women are to be allowed daily rest for a period of not less than 11 consecutive hours, at least seven of which must be between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Articles 84, 85 and 86 deal with the periods of leave to which working women are entitled. They include:

Childbearing leave with full pay for 72 days, extendable by the competent medical authority to nine months in the case of a difficult confinement, multiple births or prenatal or postnatal complications;

Leave for 30 days from the presumed date of confinement in accordance with a certificate issued by the competent medical authority;

Special maternity leave without pay, subject to the approval of the employer, for a period of not more than one year in order to care for a child in its first year.

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Any additional time granted to a working woman is regarded as leave without pay unless she is insured, when the provisions of the Workers' Retirement and Social Security Law are applied. A woman may not participate in paid employment or engage in any work that is harmful to her health while on childbearing leave.

Article 87 allows a working woman a period of not more than one hour, to be considered as time worked, in which to nurse her child; article 88 requires the provision of rest facilities for women subject to the requirements of the job; and article 89 stipulates that the provisions of section I do not apply to women working in a family environment.

It should be noted that the provisions of the Code apply only to women working in the private, mixed and cooperative sectors. By virtue of Revolution Command Council decree 150/1987, women employed in the socialist sector became employees of the State subject to the provisions applied to civil servants.

Because of the embargo, employers have been allowed a certain flexibility in matters of labour relations and this also affects the enactments for the equality of women in the private sector. Immediately the embargo is lifted, it will be possible to guarantee a woman's right not to be dismissed on taking childbearing leave.

2. The Workers' Retirement and Social Security Law (39/1971)

Taking account of the biological facts, articles 45 to 48 of this Law grant women the right to childbearing and confinement leave on full pay and to full and free health care for themselves and their offspring. Article 65 allows women to apply for retirement on reaching the age of 55 (which is five years less than the age of retirement for men) or at any age after 25 years of insured service.

II. Women employed by the State and in the socialist sector

Pursuant to Revolution Command Council decree 150/1987, all employees in government offices and in the socialist sector are regarded as civil servants equal to other civil servants in respect of rights and duties and subject to the laws, rules, regulations and instructions governing the civil service. These rules require equality in remuneration and retirement benefits. Maternity leave is for six months on full pay and six months on half pay, pursuant to Revolution Command Council decree 882/1987. Revolution Command Council decree 727/1987 allows a woman civil servant who gives birth to twins one year's maternity leave on full pay in order to care for them during their first year.

Participation of women in the industrial, financial and commercial fields

The participation of women in the industrial workforce in general has increased appreciably, going from 17 per cent in 1987 to 18.9 per cent in 1990 and to 21 per cent in 1995.

Women account for 14 per cent of persons employed in the commercial sector and are strongly represented in the financial and banking sector. The Ministry of Finance employs 17,195 women, representing 67 per cent of its total workforce of 25,774.

Women have occupied senior administrative posts at the director-general level at the Industrial Bank and at the expert level at the Ministry's headquarters and in insurance companies. They have been members of boards of management, and 156 women have occupied director-level posts in all departments of the Ministry.

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Childcare facilities for working mothers and civil servants

So that working women can combine work with child-rearing, the State has paid great attention to providing childcare for working mothers and women civil servants and has established day-care centres in residential areas and at factories and other places of work. Table 17 shows the number of childcare centres, which increased from 226 to 231, and the number of children enrolled, which declined from 10,292 to 9,509, for the period 1987-1996.

Responsibility for the establishment and operation of daycare centres was entrusted to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs by the Day-care Centres Ordinance (42/1977). This authorizes the Ministry to grant permits for the establishment of such centres to official and quasi-official institutions and to trade unions and other organizations and gives it the power to supervise their social, educational and health-related activities in coordination with the Ministry of Health.

Under an agreement between the Ministry of Labour and the United Nations Development Programme, a staff training centre and a model day-care centre have been established and training courses have been held for supervisory and management staff.

Revolution Command Council decree 251/1986 encourages the establishment of non-governmental day-care centres and provides for the possibility of citizens securing loans for related purposes of construction, modification or leasing. There are also the day-care centres of the General Federation of Iraqi Women, and there is ongoing cooperation between the Federation and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in this field.

Article 12

1. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of health care in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, access to health care services, including those related to family planning.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article, States Parties shall ensure to women appropriate services in connection with pregnancy, confinement and the post-natal period, granting free services where necessary, as well as adequate nutrition during pregnancy and lactation.

Iraqi legislation pays special attention to health care for women and the family over and above the health care that is provided to all citizens regardless of gender. The Public Health Law (89/1981) remains in effect, and its chapter II, section 1, contains provisions concerning mother-and-child health care and family health care. Mother-and-child health care services are provided through the health institutions in the areas where citizens live.

The Ministry of Health has established a system of universal primary health care, and mother-and-child health care services are provided at all 900 of the primary health care centres located throughout the country in accordance with the distribution of the population.

The health-care services seek to reduce maternal and infant morbidity and mortality in the perinatal period, provide prenatal counseling and ensure a safe and sanitary confinement by monitoring obstetric care in the country and the training of traditional, unlicensed midwives. Mother-and-child health has been adversely affected by the embargo imposed on the country, and the post-neonatal mortality rate (including that for girls) has increased since the embargo from 25 to 92.7 per 1,000 live births. The under-five mortality rate (for girls as well as boys) has increased since the

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embargo was imposed from 52 to 128 per 1,000 live births. Mortality during pregnancy or confinement has also increased to 117 per 100,000, and monthly mortality rates are shown in table 18. Monthly rates for the birth of infants (including infant girls) weighing less than 2.5 kilograms have also increased, as shown in table 19.

Despite the intensive efforts, the support provided by mass organizations and international agencies scarcely meets the need for essential services to mothers. It is impossible to keep abreast of international developments in reproductive health and safe motherhood or to secure sufficient food and medicine because of the circumstances created by the embargo and the freezing of Iraqi assets. Even the arrangements under the memorandum of understanding of 20 May 1996 between Iraq and the Secretariat of the United Nations only provide a small part of what is needed in order to develop health programmes, including mother-and-child health programmes.

Health plans focus on training in order to increase the effectiveness of mother-and-child health care providers and on health education. Health-care services are provided to all citizens, including women, free of charge.

Preventive services

The most important of the preventive services provided to women are:

(a) Coverage for all candidates for marriage in terms of the clinical and laboratory tests necessary to demonstrate fitness and the provision of the relevant medical certificates. Such coverage falls short of the target, since it is impossible to perform all of the laboratory tests necessary because of the circumstances created by the embargo;

(b) Provision to target groups (the newborn, infants and expectant mothers) of health-care services, periodical medical visits, post-confinement health care and the necessary medical, clinical and laboratory tests. Despite the efforts made to ensure coverage and high-quality care to these groups, they continue to lack laboratory testing services such as those for the early detection of cervical cancer and breast cancer because of the unjust embargo (see tables 20 and 21). Health programmes emphasize alerting mothers and other women to the importance of regular attendance at health institutions and the promotion of health education. In 1993 the Ministry of Health adopted a programme to encourage breastfeeding and a baby-friendly hospitals project aimed at promoting healthy practices and health awareness. A field survey conducted in 1994 by the Ministry of Health with the General Federation of Iraqi Women showed that there was no difference in the incidence of breastfeeding for boys and for girls. The incidence of breastfeeding, mixed feeding and bottle-feeding were, respectively, 70.3 per cent, 17.7 per cent and 12 per cent;

(c) Provision of family planning services and information to target groups through advisory clinics in women's hospitals and maternity hospitals, family planning clinics, advocacy clinics and people's clinics. In 1994 there were 36 clinics with 177,113 clients, by the end of 1996 there were 65 clinics with 418,835 clients, and by mid-1997 there were 75 clinics. Coverage remains sparse, and it falls short of the target because of the embargo being maintained against the country (see table 22);

(d) Provision of trained birth attendants. In 1987 74 per cent of confinements were attended by trained personnel, and the figure had risen to 85 per cent by 1994. A field survey conducted in homes in 1997 in cooperation with the relevant international agencies showed that 91 per cent of confinements were attended by a medically trained person

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(see table 23). A plan was also formulated for sanitary confinement, and it included training for all midwives with a view to improving the midwifery situation in the country and ensuring mothers a safe confinement;

(e) Continued provision of inoculations to 90 per cent of children in the under-five age group, regardless of sex, and to 80 per cent of women of childbearing age through the Expanded Programme on Immunization. The percentage of expectant mothers inoculated with two doses of tetanus toxoid rose from 53 in 1987 to 65 in 1996, and that for women of childbearing age rose from 15 in 1994 to 48 in 1996 (see table 24). The situation has been similar with respect to poliomyelitis vaccination campaigns, and there were national immunization days in 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998. UNICEF provides vaccines covered by the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) but not other vaccines, such as those for German measles, rubeola, viral hepatitis B and meningitis. Some serums that can be life-savers for citizens in general and for women in particular are also unavailable. The constant expansion of vaccination programmes that is required in order to reach the international targets for the elimination of poliomyelitis, neonatal tetanus and measles and thus lower rates of morbidity and mortality among women and children requires the amounts allocated under the 1996 memorandum of understanding to be increased. UNICEF must also maintain and expand its participation in order to ensure the implementation of EPI and of the joint international plans.

The nutritional situation has affected all citizens, including women in general and women of childbearing age in particular, as a result of the circumstances created by the embargo. Despite the efforts made by the State to secure and subsidize foodstuffs, studies and surveys have shown that the incidence of anaemia among expectant mothers has begun to rise. It was 51 per cent in 1994 and rose to 56 per cent in 1995/1996. Among women of childbearing age it was 37 per cent. The Ministry of Health has adopted a plan to prevent anaemia among expectant and nursing mothers by giving iron and folic acid tablets to expectant mothers on a routine basis after their fourth month. The plan is, however, failing to achieve its purpose because there is insufficient food available that contains the necessary vitamins and elements in addition to iron. Indications of malnutrition (length/weight, age/weight) have begun to become more prevalent among a segment of children, and previously unknown diseases have begun to appear such as protein deficiency (kwashiorkor) and energy deficiency (emaciation and vitamin deficiency owing to lack of such basic vitamins as vitamin D). The health-care services cannot meet their responsibilities in the proper manner because of shortages of medicine. The provision of medical supplies remains irregular and insufficient at most centres (see tables 25 and 26).

Therapeutic services

The Ministry of Health has extended health institutions specializing in the treatment of gynaecological disorders, in midwifery and in paediatrics to all governorates. New gynaecology and maternity sections have been established in government hospitals, and the total number of hospitals that had beds for women and for confinement in the period 1995 to 1997 was 86, representing 65 per cent of all government hospitals (see table 27). The number of beds assigned to women and to maternity purposes during these years was 3,162. In a general way, therapeutic services for patients in health institutions, including women, have been adversely affected. The embargo imposed on the country has also had an impact on major surgical procedures and on laboratory testing (see table 28).

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Situation of women in the workforce of the Ministry of Health

Women have accounted for a high percentage of the Ministry of Health medical staff, and in 1996 57.14 per cent of dentists and 77.94 percent of pharmacists were women. It should also be noted that the State is committed to creating employment opportunities for women doctors on a basis of equality with men.

Article 13

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in other areas of economic and social life in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, the same rights, in particular:

(a) The right to family benefits;

Women have the same economic rights as men without discrimination of any kind, and this is particularly so with respect to rights arising out of employment in the professions and in government service and to financial rights. Women have the same right as men to family benefits because they are regarded as independently responsible under the Equality of Men and Women in Financial Matters Law (191/1975) of 20 November 1975.

Social welfare for women unable to work

Article 2 of the Social Welfare Law (126/1980) provides that the State shall endeavour to ensure the social welfare of every citizen during his lifetime and of his survivors after his death. Article 3 stipulates that work is a right that the State undertakes to secure for each citizen and a duty for all who have the necessary ability. It also stipulates that the State has the goal of providing for the social security for all citizens in the event of disability and old age. Chapter II, part I, deals with family welfare. Article 8 defines "family", for the purposes of the Law, as the husband and wife, or either one, and the children, if any. It states that in the case of polygamy the members of the household are one family, but that in the event the husband dies each widow forms her own independent family. Article 10 defines "low-income family" as: a family whose monthly income is less than the minimum wage of an unskilled worker in the case where the family consists of five or more members; less 75 per cent of that amount where it consists of four members; less than 70 per cent where it consists of three members; less than 66 per cent where it consists of two members; and less than 33 per cent where it consists of one member. According to article 11, a "zero-income family" is one that has no regular income of its own on which to live. Under article 13, among those covered by the provisions of articles 7 and 11 as entitled to a family welfare allowance are widows or divorcées who have minor children who live with them. The child becomes entitled to the allowance in the case of remarriage, except where the child of a divorcée passes to the custody of the father. Under article 15, each family member (even a woman, since no distinction is made between men and women) is entitled to 2,217 dinars a month. Thus the provisions of the Social Welfare Law do not discriminate between men and women.

(b) The right to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit;

The legislation relating to commercial, agricultural and mortgage banks permits women to obtain bank loans in the same way as men, without discrimination of any kind and without any need for the approval of their husbands. This is because they have legally independent financial liability.

(c) The right to participate in recreational activities, sports and all aspects of cultural life.

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Women may participate in recreational activities and sports without discrimination on grounds of sex. Sports clubs have women's teams for basketball, table tennis, volleyball, swimming and running. In the cultural sphere, women are involved in many activities in such literary fields as poetry and fiction, in the fine arts, in the theatre and in music.

Article 14

1. States Parties shall take into account the particular problems faced by rural women and the significant roles which rural women play in the economic survival of their families, including their work in the non-monetized sectors of the economy, and shall take all appropriate measures to ensure the application of the provisions of the present Convention to women in rural areas.

2. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, that they participate in and benefit from rural development and, in particular, shall ensure to such women the right:

- (a) To participate in the elaboration and implementation of development planning at all levels;
- (b) To have access to adequate health care facilities, including information, counselling and services in family planning;
- (c) To benefit directly from social security programmes;
- (d) To obtain all types of training and education, formal and non-formal, including that relating to functional literacy, as well as, *inter alia*, the benefit of all community and extension services, in order to increase their technical proficiency;
- (e) To organize self-help groups and co-operatives in order to obtain equal access to economic opportunities through employment or self employment;
- (f) To participate in all community activities;
- (g) To have access to agricultural credit and loans, marketing facilities, appropriate technology and equal treatment in land and agrarian reform as well as in land resettlement schemes;
- (h) To enjoy adequate living conditions, particularly in relation to housing, sanitation, electricity and water supply, transport and communications.

The laws that regulate rural life do not discriminate between men and women with respect to the ownership of agricultural land, rights of inheritance, land use, the right to join agricultural associations or access to agricultural loans. The share of women in the agricultural workforce in the Iraqi countryside is high, at some 50 per cent of the total, over and above their societal role and their responsibilities as mothers and housewives.

The Glorious Revolution of 17 to 30 July 1968 introduced new patterns of ownership and new production methods into the Iraqi countryside, it made large-scale investments in irrigation, land reclamation and infrastructure projects, and it promoted agricultural mechanization, all of which has had a direct impact on rural women. It can be said that a number of factors have combined to improve the situation of rural women, namely:

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- (a) The enactment of the Compulsory Education Law of 1976 and the Compulsory Literacy Law of 1978, as well as the introduction of free education in 1974. These laws apply to both sexes and to rural areas, so that they cover more women than men because of the high incidence of illiteracy among women;
- (b) The improvement of communications in the countryside, which has promoted social awareness and modern values;
- (c) The efforts made in the fields of social services and health services; the provision of clean drinking water; the expansion of agricultural extension services; and the broadcasting, in coordination with the Education and Agricultural Extension Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, of informational television and radio programmes for rural women;
- (d) An educational policy designed to encourage women to seek specialized training in the agricultural professions and, since 1975, to seek admission to colleges of agriculture;
- (e) The promotion of rural household industries.

Equality between men and women in benefiting from land and agrarian reform and in obtaining agricultural credit and loans

The Agrarian Reform Law (117/1970) gave women the right to exercise economic independence and to hold a tract of land for reclamation and cultivation on the same terms as men. The regulations of the Agricultural Bank also permit women to borrow on an equal footing with men. The Cooperative Societies Law (43/1979) gives women the right to participate in cooperatives as members on a basis of equality with men with respect to all the rights and duties specified in the Law.

The elimination of discrimination against rural women requires nothing less than a socio-cultural development process that affects the countryside as a whole and all of its residents, men and women alike. Women are an integral part of the rural community and both influence it and are influenced by it. Iraq takes every occasion to affirm that the right to development is a basic human right and that discrimination against women will only be eliminated when all citizens, men and women alike, exercise their right to comprehensive economic and cultural development. At the same time, special attention should be paid to the countryside because of its backwardness.

PART IV

Article 15

1. *States Parties shall accord to women equality with men before the law.*
2. *States Parties shall accord to women, in civil matters, a legal capacity identical to that of men and the same opportunities to exercise that capacity. In particular, they shall give women equal rights to conclude contracts and to administer property and shall treat them equally in all stages of procedure in courts and tribunals.*
3. *States Parties agree that all contracts and all other private instruments of any kind with a legal effect which is directed at restricting the legal capacity of women shall be deemed null and void.*
4. *States Parties shall accord to men and women the same rights with regard to the law relating to the movement of persons and the freedom to choose their residence and domicile.*

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The peremptory constitutional norm governing Iraqi legislation on the equal legal capacity of women and men is that enunciated in article 19 of the Constitution, as quoted at the beginning of the present report. The provisions of the article were addressed in Iraq's initial report, and reference was made there to the enactments relating to the legal capacity of women. They include:

- (a) The Civil Code, enacted in 1951, which makes no distinction between men and women in terms of legal capacity. Its article 46 states that every person of full age who is mentally competent and not in custody has full capacity to exercise civil rights;
- (b) The Commercial Code (30/1984) and all previous such codes, which do not discriminate between men and women with respect to the pursuit of trade or the conduct of business provided that the person concerned has legal capacity and is of Iraqi nationality. A woman may therefore engage in trade by herself and on her own account. There is no requirement for the husband's prior approval, as was the case in many legal systems in the West in the past;
- (c) The Companies Law (21/1997), which makes no distinction between men and women and permits every citizen who has legal capacity to be a partner, shareholder, managing director or chairman of the board of a company;
- (d) The civil and criminal codes of procedure, which do not distinguish between men and women in any proceedings before courts and judicial tribunals regardless of the level.

The full legal capacity of Iraqi women is thus a peremptory constitutional norm that relates to public order, and any measures that are incompatible with it are thus to be considered legally null and void.

Freedom of persons to choose their residence and domicile

Iraqi legislation does not distinguish between men and women with respect to the movement of persons or their right to choose their place of residence. Legal enactments are disseminated through the various media, that is to say in the press and on radio and television. The official gazette, Al-Waqa'i al-Iraqiyah, appears weekly and publishes the laws, decrees, regulations and instructions that reflect the country's legislative policy. There are also special programmes for women.

Article 16

1. *States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in all matters relating to marriage and family relations and in particular shall ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women:*

- (a) *The same right to enter into marriage;*
- (b) *The same right freely to choose a spouse and to enter into marriage only with their free and full consent;*
- (c) *The same rights and responsibilities during marriage and at its dissolution;*
- (d) *The same rights and responsibilities as parents, irrespective of their*

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marital status, in matters relating to their children; in all cases the interests of the children shall be paramount;

(e) The same rights to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and to have access to the information, education and means to enable them to exercise these rights;

(f) The same rights and responsibilities with regard to guardianship, wardship, trusteeship and adoption of children, or similar institutions where these concepts exist in national legislation; in all cases the interests of the children shall be paramount;

(g) The same personal rights as husband and wife, including the right to choose a family name, a profession and an occupation;

(h) The same rights for both spouses in respect of the ownership, acquisition, management, administration, enjoyment and disposition of property, whether free of charge or for a valuable consideration.

2. The betrothal and the marriage of a child shall have no legal effect, and all necessary action, including legislation, shall be taken to specify a minimum age for marriage and to make the registration of marriages in an official registry compulsory.

Iraq expressed a reservation with respect to this article on the basis of the countervailing rights that are enjoined in Islamic law for the husband and wife in order to establish a just balance between them. The reason for this reservation was Iraq's concern to meet its international obligations under the Convention, on the one hand, and its commitment to its own cultural and legal heritage, as represented by Islamic law, on the other. Islamic law is the primary source of personal-status law and constitutes the peremptory norm in this field. A review of Iraqi legislation in the relevant area nevertheless shows that it is essentially in compliance with the spirit of article 16.

The Personal Status Code (188/1959), as amended, is the basic enactment regulating matters of personal status in Iraq, that is to say such matters as marriage, kinship, child custody and inheritance. It applies to all Iraqis other than those exempted under a special law enacted pursuant to its article 2. This exemption is for non-Muslim citizens, since for them such matters as marriage and its dissolution are regulated by the religious communities to which they belong. The personal status courts approve marriage contracts and consider disputes involving Muslim citizens, while the courts of first instance do the same for non-Muslim citizens.

1. Capacity to enter into marriage

Articles 3, 7 and 8 of the Code define marriage as a contract between a man and a woman who is for him legally marriageable and stipulates that full capacity for marriage requires mental competence and a minimum age of 18. A judge may permit the marriage of a mentally ill person on the basis of a medical certificate to the effect that such a marriage will not be harmful to society. A person over the age of 15 seeking to marry may do so with the approval of a judge, on verification of lawful maturity and physical capacity and with the permission of the legal guardian. These provisions correspond in substance with those of article 16, paragraph 2, which prohibit the betrothal or marriage of a child.

2. Consent to marriage and registration

Articles 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10 of section II of the Personal Status Code deal with the conditions and terms of marriage such as the offer (Ijāb),

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capacity to enter into marriage, the acceptance (gabūl), the ability of each party to hear the declaration of the other, the presence of two legally competent witnesses and the absence from the contract of any unfulfilled condition. Article 6, paragraph 2, states that marriage may be contracted by a man who is not present if he writes to the woman he wishes to marry and the letter is read to her before two witnesses or if she reads the letter to them and calls them to witness that she accepts the offer of marriage. Iraqi law thus insists that the element of consent to marriage should be fully and clearly present, as is required by paragraph 1 (b) of article 16 of the Convention.

Iraqi law regards forced marriage as a crime punishable by three years in prison or a fine for those in the first degree of relationship. For others the penalty is imprisonment for not less than three and not more than 10 years.

The Code also stipulates that marriages should be recorded with the relevant court, free of charge, in a special register. This is done by the submission of a statement, for which no stamp duty is required, identifying the two parties and signed by them, accompanied by a medical certificate to the effect that the spouses are free of infectious diseases. A penalty is established for contracts concluded outside the purview of the court. These provisions are in keeping with those of article 6, paragraph 2, of the Convention concerning the compulsory registration of marriages.

3. Legal checks on polygamy

As is well known, Islamic law allows a man to marry more than one wife. Checks have been established in order to regulate this right, and the provisions of article 3, paragraphs 4, 5, 6 and 7, of the Personal Status Code forbid marriage to more than one wife other than with the permission of a judge given on the basis of the husband's financial ability to support another wife and of there being a legitimate interest to be served. Anyone who otherwise contracts such a marriage is subject to a penalty of imprisonment and a fine. Exemption to the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 may be granted where the prospective wife is a widow. Article 4, paragraph 3, permits a wife to seek separation from her husband if he takes a second wife without the permission of the court.

4. Rights of the wife in the marriage

A wife may keep her movable and immovable property and manage it as she sees fit in her own interests. Her rights as a spouse include the entitlement to a dowry and to maintenance, as regulated by chapter III, articles 19 to 33, of the Personal Status Code.

5. Dissolution of marriage and the equal rights of spouses

There are three ways in which a marriage can be dissolved, namely divorce (talāq, repudiation by the husband), judicial separation and elective separation (khul', release at the instance of the wife). The question of the equal rights of spouses on the dissolution of their marriage is addressed hereunder in the light of the provisions of article 16, paragraph 1 (c), of the Convention.

Divorce: definition and legal effects

In article 34 of the Personal Status Code, divorce (talāq) is defined as the severance of the marriage tie by the husband (or by the wife, if so delegated or authorized), or by a judge. Divorce may only take place in the manner specified by law.

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Article 38 of the Code presents the various kinds of repudiation (talāq). In revocable repudiation (talāq raj'ī), the husband may return to his wife during the waiting period ('iddah) prescribed for her without any need for remarriage. Revocation takes place in the same manner as repudiation. Final repudiation (talāq bā'in) is of two kinds, major and minor. In the first, a husband may remarry a wife he has repudiated by concluding a new contract; and in the second, a husband is forbidden to remarry a wife he has repudiated on three separate occasions and whose 'iddah has elapsed. The Code also requires that the person pronouncing repudiation should have full capacity, so that he may not be intoxicated, insane, simple-minded or lacking in judgement because of anger, sudden calamity or terminal illness. In order to preserve the serious character of the formula of repudiation, article 36 stipulates that it cannot be incomplete, conditional or made in the form of an oath. Articles 37 and 39 deal with the formulas used for repudiation and the related judicial procedures. The important point is that, in principle, divorce should be effected in a judicial manner, that is to say by means of an action brought by one of the spouses, and that it should be registered with the court during the wife's waiting period ('iddah).

Compensation of the wife for arbitrary repudiation by the husband

Law 51/1985 was enacted in order to protect wives from arbitrary repudiation, compensate them for ill-treatment and preserve their dignity. Incorporated in the Personal Status Code as article 39, paragraph 3, it provides that where a husband repudiates his wife and the court determines that he did so arbitrarily and that she suffered prejudice thereby, the husband shall be required to pay such compensation as is commensurate with his financial situation and the degree of arbitrariness shown.

The Divorced Women's Right to Housing Law (77/1983) requires that a woman in respect of whom a decree is issued has the right to remain in the house or apartment in which she has lived with her husband for a sufficient period of time to enable her to secure appropriate accommodation. A second paragraph was added to article 1 of the Law by Law 27/1988, so that the Law as amended now contains six articles concerning the right of a divorced woman to live in the house owned by her former husband. For the case where accommodation is rented, Revolution Command Council decree 1/1983 states that:

"When a woman is repudiated and her husband is the tenant of a rented house or apartment, the rights and obligations of occupancy shall be transferred to her, should she express the desire to become the tenant, in accordance with the lease concluded by her husband."

Judicial separation and its legal consequences

Article 40 of the Personal Status Code states that either spouse may apply for separation for any of the following reasons: if one of the spouses causes such harm to the other or to their children that conjugal life cannot be maintained; if a spouse commits adultery; if the marriage took place before either spouse reached the age of 18 without the approval of a judge; if the marriage was concluded outside the purview of the court by coercion and was consummated; and if the husband marries a second wife without the approval of the court.

Article 43 provides that a wife shall have the right to apply for separation for any of the following reasons: if the husband has been sentenced to deprivation of liberty for a period of three years or more, even if he has assets from which she can support herself; if the husband has abandoned her for no good reason for a period of two years or more; if, the marriage being unconsummated, the husband fails to seek her for the wedding ceremony within two years of the date the contract is concluded; if she finds the husband to be incapacitated in such a way as to be unable to perform his

marital duties; if the husband is sterile; if the husband fails to pay accumulated court-ordered maintenance; and if the husband fails to support her for no good reason.

The wife is also entitled to seek judicial separation before consummation takes place, in which case she returns all of the property she has received and reimburses all expenses. She may also seek separation from a husband who is a national of a foreign country, has been residing abroad for at least three years and is unable to enter Iraq. Revolution Command Council decree 1708/1987 permits a wife to seek separation if her husband is convicted of treason, and Revolution Command Council decree 1529/1985 also allows a wife to seek judicial separation from her husband if he avoids military service or defects to the enemy. This is regarded as a revocable divorce in the case where the husband subsequently enters military service or returns from defection during the wife's period of waiting ('iddah). Should he desert again and separation is again granted, this is regarded as final divorce of the "minor" category.

Procedures for judicial separation

Before a court reaches a decision on separation on the basis of an action brought by one of the spouses, it follows the procedures laid down in article 41, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, of the Personal Status Code, which require the court to investigate the reasons for the dispute and consider reconciliation through the husband's family or that of the wife. If this fails, two arbitrators are chosen by the spouses or, if they are unable to agree, by the court. If the arbitrators fail to bring about a reconciliation, they refer the matter to the court, indicating which of the parties is at fault. If they cannot agree on this, the court appoints a third arbitrator. If the court determines that the dispute continues and that the husband refuses to repudiate his wife, then the court separates the two.

Legal consequences of judicial separation

Article 41 (b) states that if separation is decreed after consummation has taken place, the deferred dowry lapses in the case where the wife is at fault. If she has already been paid the entire dowry, she must return no more than one half. If both parties are at fault, the deferred dowry is divided between them in accordance with the degree of fault of each.

Elective separation (khul')

Article 46 states that khul' is the dissolution of the marriage tie and is concluded with an offer (ijab) and an acceptance (qabul) made before a judge. For khul' to be valid, the husband must have the capacity to pronounce repudiation, and he may grant his wife a divorce for a payment that is either greater or less than her dowry.

It is clear from the foregoing that Iraqi legislation regulating marriage, its legal effects and its dissolution guarantees the equal rights of the spouses in accordance with Islamic law, without being restricted to any specific school of Islamic legal thought, in order to maintain the dignity of women and protect their legal status. In terms of outcome, this conforms with the provisions of subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) of paragraph 1 of article 16 of the Convention.

The questions of fosterage and the custody of children are dealt with in chapter VI, section II, article 57, of the Personal Status Code. In order to facilitate visitations by one parent to a child who is in the custody of the other party in accordance with a judgement of the personal status court, Revolution Command Council decree 211/1984 provides that such visitations shall take place at the premises of the General Federation of Iraqi Women in

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the town where the child resides. This accords with the provisions of paragraph 1 (f) of article 16 of the Convention.

There are no personal status enactments in Iraq that require women to change their family names on marriage, and women retain their legal personalities, including their names. An entry is added in a woman's civil identification document to the effect that she is married to such-and-such a person. A woman's marriage also does not affect her freedom to choose a profession or seek a position under labour or civil service legislation.

ANNEX

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Table 1
Male and female civil servants by educational level with women as a percentage of the total,
1987-1996 (excluding the autonomous region after 1992)

| Year | Educational level | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------------------|---------|---------------------|------------|---------|---------------------|--------------|--------|---------------------|-------------|---------|---------------------|
| | No certificate | | | Elementary | | | Intermediate | | | Preparatory | | |
| | Women | Total | Percentage of women | Women | Total | Percentage of women | Women | Total | Percentage of women | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
| 1987 | 37 302 | 304 441 | 12.25 | 26 843 | 143 881 | 18 | 25 320 | 63 012 | 40 | 95 518 | 173 745 | 54 |
| 1988 | 37 619 | 329 511 | 11.4 | 27 015 | 146 516 | 18.4 | 25 536 | 64 851 | 39.4 | 96 207 | 181 849 | 52.9 |
| 1989 | 34 600 | 228 404 | 12.2 | 24 479 | 129 836 | 18.9 | 23 733 | 58 860 | 40.3 | 91 493 | 168 353 | 54.4 |
| 1990 | 34 990 | 257 237 | 13.6 | 22 525 | 123 199 | 20.5 | 23 954 | 54 184 | 44.2 | 95 168 | 170 504 | 55.8 |
| 1991 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1992 | 35 755 | 224 502 | 15.9 | 23 553 | 107 029 | 22.0 | 23 138 | 50 152 | 46.1 | 97 940 | 181 529 | 54.0 |
| 1993 | 35 333 | 212 013 | 16.7 | 22 991 | 102 664 | 22.4 | 23 362 | 49 734 | 47.0 | 100 258 | 184 551 | 54.3 |
| 1994 | 36 167 | 205 109 | 17.6 | 23 087 | 102 287 | 22.6 | 23 412 | 49 579 | 47.2 | 102 251 | 199 116 | 53.5 |
| 1995 | 37 526 | 204 015 | 18.4 | 23 591 | 104 656 | 22.5 | 23 840 | 50 751 | 47.0 | 104 192 | 195 288 | 53.4 |
| 1996 | 36 514 | 195 173 | 18.7 | 23 242 | 105 060 | 2.1 | 23 607 | 51 057 | 46.2 | 103 982 | 198 784 | 52.3 |

| Year | Educational level | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------------------|---------|---------------------|-------------------|---------|---------------------|----------------|-------|---------------------|-----------------|-------|---------------------|
| | Diploma | | | Bachelor's degree | | | Higher diploma | | | Master's degree | | |
| | Women | Total | Percentage of women | Women | Total | Percentage of women | Women | Total | Percentage of women | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
| 1987 | 38 791 | 88 390 | 44 | 51 867 | 113 381 | 45 | 881 | 3 416 | 26 | 1 229 | 5 822 | 21 |
| 1988 | 39 036 | 89 794 | 43.5 | 52 435 | 117 531 | 44.6 | 901 | 3 527 | 25.5 | 1 249 | 5 959 | 21.0 |
| 1989 | 41 112 | 91 110 | 45.1 | 51 427 | 112 977 | 45.5 | 874 | 3 365 | 26.0 | 1 208 | 5 762 | 21.0 |
| 1990 | 52 593 | 108 077 | 48.7 | 56 855 | 116 352 | 48.9 | 910 | 3 347 | 27.2 | 1 627 | 6 824 | 23.1 |
| 1991 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1992 | 61 377 | 124 798 | 49.2 | 61 148 | 123 427 | 49.5 | 897 | 3 149 | 28.5 | 1 579 | 6 829 | 23.1 |
| 1993 | 64 308 | 130 069 | 49.4 | 63 807 | 122 745 | 50.1 | 909 | 3 139 | 29.0 | 1 605 | 7 068 | 22.7 |
| 1994 | 68 353 | 136 487 | 50.1 | 66 612 | 132 752 | 50.2 | 899 | 3 049 | 29.5 | 1 573 | 6 930 | 22.7 |
| 1995 | 74 618 | 145 477 | 51.3 | 71 382 | 139 744 | 51.1 | 898 | 3 001 | 29.9 | 1 548 | 6 988 | 22.2 |
| 1996 | 75 539 | 148 382 | 50.9 | 71 794 | 141 131 | 50.9 | 873 | 2 914 | 30.0 | 1 543 | 6 780 | 22.1 |

| Year | Doctorate | | Other | | | Total | | | |
|------|-----------|-------|---------------------|-------|-------|---------------------|---------|---------|---------------------|
| | Women | Total | Percentage of women | Women | Total | Percentage of women | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
| 1987 | 378 | 4 045 | 9.0 | 26 | 219 | 11.9 | 278 156 | 900 352 | 31.0 |
| 1988 | 390 | 4 151 | 9.4 | 25 | 206 | 12.1 | 280 413 | 943 938 | 29.7 |
| 1989 | 379 | 4 017 | 9.4 | 24 | 195 | 12.3 | 269 329 | 858 522 | 31.4 |
| 1990 | 431 | 4 452 | 9.7 | 21 | 193 | 10.9 | 91 799 | 144 369 | 63.6 |
| 1991 | | | | | | | | | |
| 1992 | 415 | 4 244 | 9.8 | 22 | 183 | 12.0 | 305 824 | 825 905 | 37.0 |
| 1993 | 410 | 4 192 | 9.8 | 25 | 183 | 13.7 | 313 008 | 821 063 | 38.1 |
| 1994 | 386 | 4 012 | 9.6 | 26 | 183 | 14.2 | 322 766 | 831 523 | 38.8 |
| 1995 | 385 | 3 892 | 9.9 | 29 | 181 | 16.0 | 338 009 | 854 093 | 39.6 |
| 1996 | 358 | 3 595 | 10.0 | 28 | 167 | 16.8 | 337 408 | 853 044 | 39.6 |

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Table 2

Numbers of kindergartens, enrolment by sex and number of teachers, 1987-1997 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Year | Number of kindergartens | Number of children | | Total | Girls (percentage) | Number of teachers |
|---------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | | Boys | Girls | | | |
| 1987/88 | 594 | 39 580 | 36 978 | 76 558 | 48 | 8 572 |
| 1988/89 | 614 | 44 492 | 40 604 | 85 096 | 48 | 4 654 |
| 1989/90 | 643 | 46 003 | 41 917 | 87 920 | 48 | 5 010 |
| 1990/91 | 646 | 45 283 | 41 225 | 86 508 | 48 | 4 908 |
| 1991/92 | 580 | 40 992 | 38 014 | 79 006 | 48 | 4 598 |
| 1992/93 | 578 | 47 180 | 43 656 | 90 836 | 48 | 4 778 |
| 1993/94 | 580 | 49 162 | 45 849 | 95 011 | 48 | 4 919 |
| 1994/95 | 576 | 47 808 | 45 220 | 93 028 | 49 | 4 972 |
| 1995/96 | 571 | 43 889 | 41 135 | 85 022 | 48 | 4 841 |
| 1996/97 | 569 | 37 801 | 36 917 | 73 718 | 49 | 4 842 |

Table 3

Elementary school enrolment by sex, 1987-1997 (excluding the autonomous region after 1991/92)

| Year | Boys | | Girls | | Total |
|---------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | Number | Percentage | Number | Percentage | |
| 1987/88 | 1 623 815 | 56 | 1 300 870 | 44 | 2 922 468 |
| 1988/89 | 1 688 325 | 56 | 1 334 807 | 44 | 3 023 132 |
| 1989/90 | 1 804 642 | 56 | 1 433 641 | 44 | 3 238 283 |
| 1990/91 | 1 848 315 | 56 | 1 479 897 | 44 | 3 328 212 |
| 1991/92 | 1 556 972 | 55 | 1 267 584 | 45 | 2 824 556 |
| 1992/93 | 1 580 411 | 55 | 1 277 056 | 45 | 2 857 467 |
| 1993/94 | 1 606 333 | 55 | 1 295 906 | 45 | 2 902 239 |
| 1994/95 | 1 614 560 | 55 | 1 298 973 | 45 | 2 913 533 |
| 1995/96 | 1 602 071 | 55 | 1 301 852 | 45 | 2 903 923 |
| 1996/97 | 1 628 813 | 55 | 1 318 299 | 45 | 2 947 112 |

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Table 4

Boys', girls' and coeducational schools with coeducational schools as a percentage of the total, 1996/97, and with corresponding totals for 1994/95 and 1995/96 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Governorate | Number of schools | | | Total | Mixed (percentage) |
|---------------|-------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------------------|
| | Boys' | Girls' | Mixed | | |
| Ninawa | 112 | 65 | 771 | 948 | 81 |
| Salah al-Din | 112 | 91 | 423 | 626 | 68 |
| Ta'mim | 57 | 28 | 474 | 559 | 85 |
| Diyala | 65 | 56 | 549 | 670 | 82 |
| Baghdad | 142 | 116 | 1 112 | 1 370 | 81 |
| Anbar | 178 | 163 | 265 | 606 | 44 |
| Babil | 35 | 40 | 352 | 427 | 82 |
| Karbala' | 65 | 46 | 138 | 249 | 55 |
| Najaf | 86 | 82 | 138 | 306 | 45 |
| Qadisiyah | 60 | 56 | 280 | 396 | 71 |
| Muthanna | 5 | 5 | 218 | 228 | 96 |
| Dhi Qar | 65 | 55 | 494 | 614 | 80 |
| Wasit | 20 | 10 | 417 | 447 | 93 |
| Maysan | 56 | 51 | 222 | 329 | 67 |
| Basrah | 125 | 55 | 346 | 536 | 66 |
| Total 1996/97 | 1 183 | 919 | 6 199 | 8 256 | 75 |
| Total 1994/95 | 912 | 693 | 6 453 | 8 958 | 80 |
| Total 1995/96 | 993 | 803 | 6 349 | 8 145 | 78 |

Table 5

Secondary (intermediate and preparatory) school enrolment by sex, 1987/88-1996/97 (excluding the autonomous region after 1991/92)

| Year | Boys | | Girls | | Total |
|---------|---------|------------|---------|------------|-----------|
| | Number | Percentage | Number | Percentage | |
| 1987/88 | 609 000 | 62 | 376 123 | 38 | 985 123 |
| 1988/89 | 602 334 | 61 | 379 075 | 39 | 981 409 |
| 1989/90 | 601 198 | 61 | 384 954 | 39 | 986 152 |
| 1990/91 | 624 945 | 61 | 398 765 | 39 | 1 023 710 |
| 1991/92 | 591 276 | 61 | 376 596 | 39 | 967 872 |
| 1992/93 | 606 095 | 61 | 386 522 | 39 | 992 617 |
| 1993/94 | 603 905 | 61 | 390 479 | 39 | 994 384 |
| 1994/95 | 625 692 | 62 | 383 413 | 38 | 1 009 105 |
| 1995/96 | 631 457 | 61 | 406 025 | 39 | 1 037 482 |
| 1996/97 | 678 151 | 62 | 413 580 | 38 | 1 091 731 |

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Table 6

Boys', girls' and coeducational secondary schools, 1996,
with corresponding totals for 1994 and 1995
(excluding the autonomous region after 1991/92)

| Governorate | Boys' schools | | Girls' schools | | Mixed schools | | Total |
|--------------|---------------|----|----------------|----|---------------|----|-------|
| | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | |
| Ninawa | 130 | 56 | 66 | 28 | 36 | 16 | 232 |
| Salah al-Din | 97 | 49 | 47 | 24 | 55 | 27 | 199 |
| Ta'mim | 79 | 57 | 40 | 29 | 20 | 14 | 139 |
| Diyala | 74 | 38 | 54 | 28 | 67 | 34 | 195 |
| Baghdad | 307 | 48 | 289 | 46 | 36 | 6 | 632 |
| Anbar | 99 | 49 | 55 | 27 | 47 | 24 | 201 |
| Babil | 50 | 32 | 53 | 34 | 52 | 34 | 155 |
| Karbala' | 36 | 43 | 35 | 42 | 13 | 15 | 84 |
| Najaf | 52 | 46 | 46 | 40 | 16 | 14 | 114 |
| Qadisiyah | 40 | 44 | 36 | 40 | 15 | 16 | 91 |
| Muthanna | 22 | 45 | 15 | 31 | 12 | 24 | 49 |
| Dhi Qar | 73 | 41 | 50 | 28 | 55 | 31 | 178 |
| Wasit | 45 | 45 | 36 | 36 | 18 | 18 | 99 |
| Maysan | 38 | 51 | 31 | 41 | 6 | 8 | 75 |
| Basrah | 104 | 42 | 101 | 40 | 46 | 18 | 251 |
| Total 1996 | 1 246 | 46 | 954 | 35 | 494 | 19 | 2 694 |
| Total 1994 | 1 213 | 46 | 937 | 35 | 508 | 19 | 2 658 |
| Total 1995 | 1 218 | 46 | 946 | 35 | 511 | 19 | 2 675 |

Table 7

Enrolment in agricultural, industrial and commercial vocational schools by sex, 1996, with corresponding totals for 1994 and 1995 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Governorate | Males | Females | Total | Percentage of females |
|--------------|--------|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| Ninawa | 4 555 | 233 | 4 788 | 4.9 |
| Salah al-Din | 3 399 | 170 | 3 569 | 4.8 |
| Ta'mim | 3 504 | 382 | 3 886 | 9.8 |
| Diyala | 2 789 | 171 | 2 960 | 5.8 |
| Baghdad | 25 362 | 5 146 | 30 508 | 16.9 |
| Anbar | 3 358 | 240 | 3 598 | 6.7 |
| Babil | 4 649 | 457 | 5 106 | 9 |
| Karbala' | 2 696 | 104 | 2 800 | 3.7 |
| Najaf | 4 224 | 225 | 4 449 | 5.1 |
| Qadisiyah | 2 258 | 180 | 2 428 | 7.4 |
| Muthanna | 1 333 | 218 | 1 550 | 14 |
| Dhi Qar | 3 618 | 272 | 3 890 | 7 |
| Wasit | 2 891 | 239 | 3 130 | 7.6 |
| Maysan | 2 421 | 163 | 2 584 | 6.3 |
| Basrah | 6 242 | 807 | 7 049 | 11.4 |
| Total 1996 | 74 772 | 9 006 | 83 778 | 11 |
| Total 1994 | 86 073 | 25 740 | 111 813 | 23 |
| Total 1995 | 8 917 | 17 488 | 99 405 | 18 |

Table 8

Enrolment in teacher training colleges by sex, with women as a percentage of the total, 1996/97, and with corresponding totals for 1994 and 1995 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Governorate | Males | Females | Total | Percentage of females |
|--------------|--------|---------|--------|-----------------------|
| Ninawa | 854 | 1 257 | 2 111 | 60 |
| Salah al-Din | 166 | 990 | 1 156 | 86 |
| Ta'mim | 545 | 901 | 1 446 | 62 |
| Diyala | 614 | 577 | 1 180 | 48 |
| Baghdad | 1 083 | 2 517 | 3 600 | 70 |
| Anbar | 735 | 1 246 | 1 981 | 63 |
| Babil | 434 | 580 | 1 014 | 57 |
| Karbala' | 743 | 1 137 | 1 880 | 60 |
| Najaf | 706 | 744 | 1 450 | 51 |
| Qadisiyah | 679 | 633 | 1 312 | 48 |
| Muthanna | 531 | 523 | 1 054 | 50 |
| Dhi Qar | 1 107 | 873 | 1 980 | 44 |
| Wasit | 544 | 261 | 1 165 | 53 |
| Maysan | 466 | 760 | 1 226 | 62 |
| Basrah | 429 | 560 | 989 | 57 |
| Total 1996 | 9 636 | 14 078 | 3 714 | 61 |
| Total 1994 | 10 502 | 15 567 | 26 069 | 60 |
| Total 1995 | 9 414 | 4 393 | 3 807 | 61 |

Table 9

Enrolment in universities and technical colleges by sex with women as a percentage of the total, 1996/97, and with corresponding totals for 1994 and 1995 (excluding the autonomous region)

| University or college | Men | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|
| University of Baghdad | 30 217 | 21 362 | 51 579 | 41.4 |
| Basrah University | 9 918 | 8 454 | 18 372 | 46 |
| Mosul University | 12 386 | 5 757 | 18 143 | 31.7 |
| Babil University | 4 321 | 3 142 | 7 373 | 42.6 |
| Mustansiriyah University | 12 440 | 10 618 | 23 058 | 46 |
| Technological University | 6 539 | 2 008 | 8 547 | 23.5 |
| Kufah University | 2 803 | 3 364 | 6 167 | 54.5 |
| Tikrit University | 2 171 | 1 157 | 3 328 | 34.8 |
| Anbar University | 3 548 | 1 677 | 5 225 | 32.1 |
| Qadisiyah University | 3 263 | 2 552 | 5 815 | 43.9 |
| Technical Colleges Board | 55 196 | 15 872 | 71 068 | 22.3 |
| Total government universities | 142 712 | 75 963 | 218 675 | 34.7 |
| Turath University College | 1 913 | 982 | 2 895 | 34 |
| Mansur University College | 1 705 | 866 | 2 571 | 33.7 |
| Rafidayn University College | 2 564 | 1 297 | 3 861 | 33.6 |
| Ma'mun University College | 2 109 | 1 770 | 3 879 | 45.6 |
| Baghdad School of Economics | 315 | 246 | 561 | 43.9 |
| Hadba' University College | 470 | 192 | 662 | 29 |
| Ma'arif University College | 1 181 | 27 | 1 208 | 2.2 |
| Yarmuk University College | 168 | 100 | 268 | 37.3 |
| Shatt al-Arab University College | 1 353 | 387 | 1 740 | 22.2 |
| Total non-government institutions | 11 778 | 5 867 | 17 645 | 33.3 |
| Total 1996/97 | 154 490 | 81 830 | 236 320 | 34.6 |
| Total 1995/96 | 145 410 | 75 539 | 222 949 | 34.2 |
| Total 1994/94 | 128 782 | 68 292 | 197 074 | 34.7 |

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Table 10

Graduates of Iraqi universities with women as a percentage of the total, 1987/88-1995/96 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Year | Men | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------|
| 1987/88 | 13 715 | 10 764 | 24 479 | 44 |
| 1988/89 | 23 494 | 16 053 | 39 547 | 40.6 |
| 1989/90 | 27 458 | 16 227 | 43 685 | 37.2 |
| 1990/91 | 21 521 | 16 712 | 38 233 | 43.7 |
| 1991/92 | 19 590 | 17 059 | 36 649 | 46.5 |
| 1992/93 | 19 899 | 17 081 | 36 980 | 46.2 |
| 1993/94 | 26 382 | 15 867 | 42 249 | 37.6 |
| 1994/95 | 20 940 | 13 141 | 34 081 | 38.6 |
| 1995/96 | 19 320 | 13 101 | 32 421 | 40.4 |

Table 11

Enrolment in advanced studies, 1996/97 (excluding the autonomous region)

| University | Men | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| University of Baghdad | 2 877 | 1 252 | 4 129 | 30.3 |
| Basrah University | 494 | 180 | 674 | 26.7 |
| Mosul University | 585 | 262 | 847 | 30.9 |
| Babil University | 108 | 37 | 145 | 25.5 |
| Mustansiriyah University | 645 | 343 | 988 | 34.7 |
| Kufah University | 151 | 35 | 186 | 18.8 |
| Technological University | 460 | 178 | 638 | 27.9 |
| Iraq Medical Specialization Board | 831 | 182 | 1 013 | 18 |
| Tikrit University | 59 | 24 | 83 | 18.9 |
| Qadisiyah University | 22 | 4 | 26 | 15.4 |
| Anbar University | 45 | 10 | 55 | 18.2 |
| Total | 6 277 | 2 507 | 8 784 | 28.5 |

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Table 12

Teaching staff in elementary schools with women as a percentage of the total, 1996/97, and with corresponding totals for 1994 and 1995 (excluding the autonomous area)

| Governorate | Men | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
|---------------|--------|---------|---------|---------------------|
| Ninawa | 3, 591 | 6 892 | 10 482 | 66 |
| Salah al-Din | 2 640 | 4 793 | 7 433 | 64 |
| Ta'mim | 1 928 | 5 392 | 7 320 | 74 |
| Diyala | 3 600 | 6 832 | 10 432 | 65 |
| Baghdad | 5 017 | 29 338 | 34 355 | 85 |
| Anbar | 3 102 | 5 140 | 8 242 | 62 |
| Babil | 3 130 | 6 234 | 9 364 | 67 |
| Karbala' | 1 600 | 3 608 | 5 208 | 69 |
| Najaf | 1 875 | 3 926 | 5 801 | 68 |
| Qadisiyah | 2 292 | 4 113 | 6 405 | 64 |
| Muthanna | 899 | 2 106 | 4 005 | 70 |
| Dhi Qar | 4 071 | 5 973 | 10 044 | 59 |
| Wasit | 2 243 | 4 310 | 6 553 | 66 |
| Maysan | 1 958 | 3 402 | 5 360 | 63 |
| Basrah | 3 112 | 8 061 | 11 173 | 72 |
| Total 1996/97 | 41 058 | 100 120 | 141 178 | 71 |
| Total 1994/95 | 42 510 | 97 437 | 39 947 | 70 |
| Total 1995/96 | 42 185 | 103 270 | 145 455 | 71 |

Table 13

Teaching staff in secondary schools with women as a percentage of the total, 1996/97, and with corresponding totals for 1994 and 1995 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Governorate | Men | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------|
| Ninawa | 1 839 | 2 315 | 4 154 | 56 |
| Salah al-Din | 1 156 | 955 | 2 111 | 45 |
| Ta'mim | 1 134 | 1 358 | 2 492 | 54 |
| Diyala | 1 924 | 2 043 | 3 967 | 52 |
| Baghdad | 4 987 | 11 395 | 16 382 | 70 |
| Anbar | 1 642 | 1 086 | 2 728 | 40 |
| Babil | 2 090 | 2 430 | 4 520 | 54 |
| Karbala' | 810 | 1 050 | 1 860 | 56 |
| Najaf | 1 031 | 1 383 | 2 414 | 57 |
| Qadisiyah | 901 | 1 085 | 1 986 | 55 |
| Muthanna | 335 | 365 | 700 | 52 |
| Dhi Qar | 1 615 | 1 141 | 2 756 | 41 |
| Wasit | 1 020 | 1 168 | 2 188 | 53 |
| Maysan | 581 | 500 | 1 081 | 46 |
| Basrah | 1 993 | 3 032 | 5 025 | 60 |
| Total 1996/97 | 23 058 | 31 306 | 4 364 | 58 |
| Total 1994/95 | 33 626 | 28 802 | 2 428 | 55 |
| Total 1995/96 | 22 916 | 29 477 | 2 393 | 57 |

Table 14

Teaching staff in vocational schools (agricultural, industrial and commercial) with women as a percentage of the total, 1996/97, and with corresponding totals for 1994 and 1995 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Governorate | Men | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Ninawa | 348 | 251 | 599 | 42 |
| Salah al-Din | 606 | 110 | 316 | 35 |
| Ta'mim | 255 | 183 | 438 | 42 |
| Diyala | 295 | 234 | 529 | 44 |
| Baghdad | 755 | 1 812 | 2 567 | 71 |
| Anbar | 259 | 99 | 358 | 28 |
| Babil | 2 297 | 352 | 649 | 54 |
| Karbala' | 175 | 94 | 269 | 35 |
| Najaf | 205 | 131 | 336 | 39 |
| Qadisiyah | 165 | 107 | 272 | 39 |
| Muthanna | 96 | 24 | 120 | 20 |
| Dhi Qar | 210 | 107 | 317 | 34 |
| Wasit | 274 | 172 | 446 | 39 |
| Maysan | 131 | 55 | 186 | 30 |
| Basrah | 273 | 247 | 520 | 48 |
| Total 1996/97 | 4 944 | 3 978 | 7 922 | 49 |
| Total 1994/95 | 4 156 | 4 620 | 8 776 | 51 |
| Total 1995/96 | 4 020 | 4 491 | 8 511 | 51 |

Table 15

Teaching staff in teacher-training colleges with women as a percentage of the total, 1996/97, and with corresponding totals for 1994 and 1995 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Governorate | Men | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
|---------------|-----|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Ninawa | 65 | 59 | 124 | 48 |
| Salah al-Din | 20 | 62 | 72 | 76 |
| Ta'mim | 51 | 47 | 98 | 48 |
| Diyala | 43 | 33 | 76 | 43 |
| Baghdad | 78 | 84 | 262 | 70 |
| Anbar | 39 | 53 | 92 | 58 |
| Babil | 28 | 39 | 67 | 58 |
| Karbala' | 35 | 67 | 102 | 66 |
| Najaf | 19 | 39 | 58 | 67 |
| Qadisiyah | 31 | 35 | 66 | 53 |
| Muthanna | 24 | 24 | 48 | 50 |
| Dhi Qar | 51 | 43 | 94 | 46 |
| Wasit | 53 | 37 | 90 | 41 |
| Maysan | 32 | 227 | 59 | 46 |
| Basrah | 25 | 41 | 66 | 62 |
| Total 1996/97 | 594 | 790 | 384 | 57 |
| Total 1994/95 | 663 | 836 | 1 499 | 56 |
| Total 1995/96 | 616 | 793 | 1 409 | 56 |

Table 16

Teaching staff in universities and technical colleges with women as a percentage of the total, 1987/88-1996/97 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Year | Men | Women | Total | Percentage of women |
|---------|-------|-------|--------|---------------------|
| 1987/88 | 6 893 | 1 912 | 8 805 | 21.7 |
| 1988/89 | 7 381 | 2 077 | 9 458 | 21.9 |
| 1989/90 | 7 795 | 223 | 10 018 | 22.2 |
| 1990/91 | 7 959 | 2 338 | 10 297 | 22.7 |
| 1991/92 | 7 843 | 2 401 | 10 244 | 23.4 |
| 1992/93 | 7 813 | 2 473 | 10 286 | 24 |
| 1993/94 | 8 658 | 2 772 | 11 430 | 24.3 |
| 1994/95 | 8 735 | 2 914 | 11 649 | 25 |
| 1995/96 | 8 524 | 2 978 | 11 502 | 25.9 |
| 1996/97 | 8 590 | 3 154 | 11 744 | 26.9 |

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Table 17
Number of day-care centres with enrolment and staffing by sex, 1987-1996 (excluding the autonomous region)

| Year | Number | Children enrolled | | | Administrative staff | | | Other staff | | |
|------|--------|-------------------|--------|------------------|----------------------|-------|------------------|-------------|-------|------------------|
| | | Girls | Total | Percentage girls | Women | Total | Percentage women | Women | Total | Percentage women |
| 1987 | 226 | 5 027 | 10 292 | 48.8 | 1 501 | 1 501 | 100 | 664 | 874 | 76.0 |
| 1988 | 223 | 3 448 | 7 349 | 46.9 | 1 355 | 1 355 | 100 | 609 | 807 | 75.5 |
| 1989 | 212 | 4 309 | 9 246 | 46.6 | 1 176 | 1 176 | 100 | 556 | 759 | 73.3 |
| 1990 | 191 | 3 799 | 8 214 | 46.3 | 980 | 980 | 100 | 480 | 679 | 70.7 |
| 1991 | 184 | 4 065 | 8 462 | 48.0 | 883 | 883 | 100 | 363 | 508 | 71.5 |
| 1992 | 201 | 4 851 | 9 947 | 48.8 | 1 180 | 1 189 | 92.2 | 432 | 630 | 68.6 |
| 1993 | 201 | 4 737 | 10 228 | 46.3 | 1 122 | 1 136 | 98.8 | 436 | 624 | 69.9 |
| 1994 | 206 | 4 547 | 9 583 | 47.4 | 1 122 | 1 144 | 98.1 | 379 | 592 | 64.0 |
| 1995 | 215 | 4 483 | 9 489 | 47.2 | 1 015 | 1 035 | 98.1 | 520 | 737 | 70.6 |
| 1996 | 231 | 4 389 | 9 509 | 46.2 | 1 152 | 1 172 | 98.3 | 401 | 605 | 66.3 |

Table 18

Deaths attributable to the economic embargo by age group^a,
 1990-1998, with selected causes^b

| Time period | Age group | | Total |
|------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | Under-5 | Over-50 | |
| 1989 | 7 110 | 20 224 | 27 334 |
| 1990 ^c | 8 903 | 23 561 | 32 464 |
| 1991 | 27 473 | 58 469 | 85 942 |
| 1992 | 46 933 | 76 530 | 123 463 |
| 1993 | 49 762 | 78 261 | 128 023 |
| 1994 | 52 905 | 80 776 | 133 681 |
| 1995 | 55 823 | 82 961 | 138 784 |
| 1996 | 56 997 | 83 284 | 140 281 |
| 1997 | 58 845 | 85 942 | 144 787 |
| 1998 (January-June) | 32 973 | 45 764 | 78 737 |
| Total | 390 614 | 615 548 | 1 006 162 |

^a The infant mortality rate was 92.7 per 1,000 live births, and the mortality rate for women of childbearing age was 117.0 per 100,000.

^b The selected causes for the under-five age group are: acute respiratory infections; diarrhoea and intestinal infections; and malnutrition. For the over-50 age group they are: heart disease; hypertension; diabetes; kidney diseases; liver diseases; and malignant neoplasms.

^c The total number of deaths for all age groups in the period August-December 1990, the first months of the embargo, was 12,727.

Table 19

Birthweights of less than 2.5 kilograms recorded by the health authorities during the period of the economic embargo, 1990-1998

| Time period | | Monthly average (percentage) |
|-------------|----------|------------------------------|
| 1990 | | 4.5 |
| 1991 | | 10.8 |
| 1992 | | 17.6 |
| 1993 | | 19.7 |
| 1994 | | 21.1 |
| 1995 | | 22.05 |
| 1996 | | 22.6 |
| 1997 | | 23.02 |
| 1998 | January | 23.5 |
| | February | 24.7 |
| | March | 23.0 |
| | April | 23.1 |
| | May | 21.3 |
| | June | 22.4 |

Table 20

Percentage of target groups receiving the third periodic medical visit, 1989-1996

| Year | Target group | | |
|------|--------------|---------|-------------------|
| | Newborns | Infants | Expectant mothers |
| 1989 | 85.46 | 37.0 | 78.79 |
| 1990 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1991 | 85.52 | 58.59 | 71.81 |
| 1992 | 96.98 | 56.62 | 81.47 |
| 1993 | 89.66 | 47.31 | 69.68 |
| 1994 | 80.21 | 43.75 | 66.37 |
| 1995 | 94.50 | 74.61 | 84.51 |
| 1996 | 83.03 | 74.77 | 83.75 |

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Table 21

Monthly averages or totals for laboratory tests by type of test
 and as a percentage of the 1989 figures, 1989-1998

| Time period | Type of test | | | | | | | | | | Total | Percentage decrease since 1989 |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|---------------|-----------|-------|-------|--------------------------------|
| | Clinical chemistry | Bacteriology | Haematology | Blood bank tests | Serology | Cytology | Tissue crossmatching | Miscellaneous | | | | |
| 1989 | 750 258 | 84 022 | 431 736 | 184 444 | 95 331 | 29 605 | 16 362 | 338 293 | 1 494 050 | | | |
| 1990 | 259 742 | 55 548 | 363 421 | 99 970 | 40 520 | 1 723 | 3 045 | 267 259 | 1 091 230 | 27 | | |
| 1991 | 134 762 | 26 368 | 21 141 | 67 634 | 23 411 | 573 | 1 725 | 160 562 | 635 446 | 57 | | |
| 1992 | 121 316 | 21 773 | 198 786 | 60 514 | 17 892 | 482 | 1 457 | 167 732 | 589 952 | 60.5 | | |
| 1993 | 118 323 | 21 272 | 194 113 | 59 203 | 16 646 | 388 | 1 341 | 164 939 | 576 225 | 61.4 | | |
| 1994 | 108 884 | 19 542 | 178 793 | 54 708 | 15 358 | 358 | 1 233 | 152 527 | 531 384 | 64.4 | | |
| 1995 | 100 595 | 18 093 | 168 572 | 51 677 | 14 227 | 332 | 1 145 | 146 454 | 501 095 | 66.4 | | |
| 1996 | 100 383 | 18 055 | 168 215 | 51 568 | 14 197 | 332 | 1 142 | 146 145 | 500 036 | 66.53 | | |
| 1997 | 99 748 | 18 008 | 166 644 | 51 148 | 14 236 | 541 | 1 023 | 148 232 | 499 579 | 66.56 | | |
| 1998 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 93 680 | 16 869 | 156 984 | 50 025 | 13 249 | 298 | 1 059 | 134 479 | 466 642 | 68.7 | | |
| February | 96 083 | 17 283 | 161 023 | 45 944 | 13 573 | 307 | 1 077 | 143 366 | 478 654 | 67.9 | | |
| March | 105 558 | 18 986 | 166 930 | 51 986 | 15 041 | 351 | 1 201 | 165 050 | 525 143 | 64.8 | | |
| April | 86 658 | 16 352 | 151 455 | 48 359 | 13 559 | 297 | 973 | 136 555 | 454 209 | 69.6 | | |
| May | 96 322 | 17 325 | 161 411 | 49 481 | 13 622 | 304 | 1 022 | 140 308 | 479 795 | 67.8 | | |
| June | 109 045 | 19 724 | 181 717 | 56 315 | 15 527 | 362 | 1 149 | 162 705 | 546 545 | 63.4 | | |

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Table 22

Reproductive health and family planning:

Between 1986 and 1989, the work of the Family Planning Association of Iraq focused on providing guidance and on training and advocacy in connection with family, household and women's health and the treatment of infertility through the special clinics of the Ministry of Health. In early 1989, together with the Ministry of Health and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), it began to draft an integrated plan with the hope of implementing it in 1990. However, the treacherous aggression and the imposition of the unjust sanctions by the Security Council also affected the Association when the Sanctions Committee decided to require IPPF to seek approval for the items that it sent the Association, and this brought a halt to reproductive health services until 1992. The information in the following tables reflects the extent of growth between 1991 and 1997 as regards the increasing number of clinics, beneficiaries and staff trained.

22 (a) Women beneficiaries of services, 1991-1997

| No. | Year | Beneficiaries |
|-----|------|---------------|
| 1 | 1991 | - |
| 2 | 1992 | 92 780 |
| 3 | 1993 | 73 497 |
| 4 | 1994 | 232 766 |
| 5 | 1995 | 355 051 |
| 6 | 1996 | 418 835 |
| 7 | 1997 | 650 052 |

22 (b) Staff trained, 1991-1997

| No. | Year | Beneficiaries |
|-----|------|---------------|
| 1 | 1991 | - |
| 2 | 1992 | 85 |
| 3 | 1993 | 237 |
| 4 | 1994 | 420 |
| 5 | 1995 | 550 |
| 6 | 1996 | 687 |
| 7 | 1997 | 828 |

22 (c) Services, 1986

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 1986 | Nine clinics | Red Crescent | Shaykh Umar | TB/Madinat Saddam | Karkh Hospital | Alawiyah Hospital | Yarmuk Hospital | Nu'man Hospital | Mosul Republican Hospital |
|------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|

22 (d) Number of clinics, 1991-1997

| No. | Year | Number | Type | | | | | | Remarks |
|-----|------|--------|--------|------------|------------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---|
| | | | Advice | Specialist | People's medical | Women's Federation | Women's | Special | |
| 1 | 1991 | 7 | - | - | 7 | - | - | - | No services because decisions of Sanctions Committee prevented arrival of supplies. |
| 2 | 1992 | 14 | 7 | - | 7 | - | - | - | |
| 3 | 1993 | 17 | 7 | - | 7 | 1 | 1 | - | |
| 4 | 1994 | 33 | 19 | - | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | |
| 5 | 1995 | 37 | 22 | - | 7 | 3 | 2 | 3 | |
| 6 | 1996 | 65 | 27 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 3 | |
| 7 | 1997 | 81 | 29 | 14 | 13 | 15 | 7 | 3 | |

Table 23

Total and percentage of births attended by trained personnel (physicians, midwives, nurses or others), 1987-1994

| Year | Total births | Births attended by trained personnel | |
|------|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| | | Number | Percentage |
| 1987 | 471 305 | 349 160 | 74 |
| 1988 | 549 222 | 401 576 | 73 |
| 1989 | 641 791 | 474 476 | 74 |
| 1990 | 660 385 | 527 499 | 80 |
| 1991 | 482 290 | 398 522 | 83 |
| 1992 | 505 450 | 432 563 | 86 |
| 1993 | 554 138 | 463 087 | 84 |
| 1994 | 430 716 | 366 423 | 85 |

Table 24

Percentage of expectant mothers and women of childbearing age receiving tetanus toxoid vaccinations, 1987-1996

| Year | Expectant mothers | Women of childbearing age |
|------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1987 | 53 | - |
| 1988 | 70 | - |
| 1989 | 65 | - |
| 1990 | 55 | - |
| 1991 | 45 | - |
| 1992 | 55 | - |
| 1993 | 45 | - |
| 1994 | 70 | 15 |
| 1995 | 71 | 35 |
| 1996 | 65 | 48 |

Table 25

Percentage of infants suffering from malnutrition: results of the nutritional survey conducted in October 1997

| Type of malnutrition | Indicator | 5 months | | 6-11 months | | 0-11 months | |
|----------------------|---------------|----------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls |
| Weight loss | Weight/age | 6.3 | 6.7 | 24.4 | 23.6 | 14.5 | 14.7 |
| Growth retardation | Length/age | 7.1 | 8.8 | 17.9 | 16.4 | 12.0 | 12.4 |
| Severe malnutrition | Weight/length | 6.0 | 5.8 | 9.7 | 8.6 | 7.7 | 7.2 |
| Size of sample | | 853 | 807 | 709 | 733 | 1 562 | 1 540 |

Table 27

Gynaecological, obstetric, maternity and paediatric hospitals with number of beds and number of inpatients for 1995, 1996 and 1997

| 1995 | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| Type of hospital | Hospitals | | Beds | | Patients | |
| | Number | Percentage | Number | Percentage | Number | Percentage |
| Obstetric/ gynaecological | 8 | 4 | 1 183 | 4.05 | | |
| Maternity-paediatric | 11 | 5.58 | 3 058 | 10.40 | | |
| Paediatric | 7 | 3.55 | 1 217 | 4.17 | | |
| Total | 26 | 13.2 | 5 458 | 18.70 | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| Obstetri/ gynaecological | 7 | 3.5 | 1 055 | 4.57 | | |
| Maternity-paediatric | 11 | 5.56 | 3 120 | 10.50 | | |
| Paediatric | 7 | 3.54 | 1 222 | 4.14 | | |
| Total | 25 | 12.63 | 5 397 | 18.28 | | |
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| Obstetric/ gynaecological | 7 | 3.5 | 1 018 | 3.45 | | |
| Maternity-paediatric | 11 | 5.56 | 3 116 | 10.55 | | |
| Paediatric | 7 | 3.54 | 1 504 | 5.09 | | |
| Total | 25 | 12.63 | 5 638 | 19.09 | | |

Table 28

Impact of the economic embargo on major surgical procedures, 1989-1998

| Time period | Monthly average or total | Percentage decrease relative to 1989 figure | |
|-------------|--------------------------|---|------|
| 1989 | 15 125 | - | |
| 1990 | 8 668 | 43 | |
| 1991 | 6 507 | 57 | |
| 1992 | 5 477 | 63.7 | |
| 1993 | 5 202 | 65.6 | |
| 1994 | 4 679 | 69.1 | |
| 1995 | 4 492 | 70.3 | |
| 1996 | 4 417 | 70.8 | |
| 1997 | 4 357 | 71.19 | |
| 1998 | January | 3 795 | 74.9 |
| | February | 4 015 | 73.4 |
| | March | 3 899 | 74.2 |
| | April | 4 536 | 70.0 |
| | May | 4 482 | 70.3 |
| | June | 5 003 | 66.9 |

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Table 29
 Impact of the economic embargo on the incidence of transmissible diseases in Iraq, 1989-1997

| Condition | 1989 | | 1990 | | 1991 | | 1992 | | 1993 | |
|-------------------------|--------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|
| | Number | Index (1989=1) | Number | Index (1989=1) | Number | Index (1989=1) | Number | Index (1989=1) | Number | Index (1989=1) |
| Poliomyelitis | 10 | 5.6 | 56 | 18.6 | 186 | 18.6 | 120 | 12 | 75 | 7.5 |
| Diphtheria | 96 | 1.75 | 168 | 5.4 | 511 | 5.4 | 369 | 3.8 | 239 | 2.49 |
| Pertussis | 368 | 1.3 | 489 | 1.3 | 1 537 | 4.1 | 1 601 | 4.2 | 767 | 2.08 |
| Measles | 5 715 | 1.3 | 7 524 | 1.3 | 11 358 | 1.9 | 20 160 | 3.5 | 16 399 | 2.87 |
| Rubella | 514 | 1.3 | 693 | 1.3 | 2 848 | 5.51 | 1 663 | 3.2 | 928 | 1.8 |
| Neonatal tetanus | 42 | 9.3 | 393 | 22.2 | 936 | 22.2 | 233 | 5.58 | 171 | 4.1 |
| Tetanus | 32 | 2.7 | 87 | 29.1 | 933 | 29.1 | 98 | 3 | 64 | 2 |
| Mumps | 9 639 | 1.6 | 15 963 | 2.3 | 22 718 | 2.3 | 23 883 | 2.4 | 46 961 | 4.87 |
| Cholera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1.217 | 1 217 | 1.217 | 976 | 976 | 825 | 825 |
| Typhoid | 1 812 | 1.2 | 2 240 | 9.6 | 17 524 | 9.6 | 19 276 | 10.6 | 22 688 | 12.5 |
| Giardiasis | 73 416 | 1.5 | 113 222 | 6.8 | 501 391 | 6.8 | 596 356 | 8.1 | 602 011 | 8.2 |
| Amoebic dysentery | 19 615 | 1.6 | 32 957 | 2.9 | 58 311 | 2.9 | 61 939 | 3.1 | 62 864 | 3.2 |
| Viral hepatitis | 1 816 | 1.7 | 3 228 | 6.1 | 11 135 | 6.1 | 13 766 | 7.5 | 16 801 | 9.2 |
| Meningitis | 2 559 | 0.7 | 1 810 | 2.3 | 5 792 | 2.3 | 4 534 | 1.8 | 3 772 | 1.47 |
| Local malaria | 3 428 | 1.11 | 3 924 | 2 | 7 105 | 2 | 5 535 | 1.6 | 4 581 | 1.34 |
| Cutaneous leishmaniasis | 1 829 | 1 | 1 894 | 4.5 | 8 233 | 4.5 | 8 779 | 4.8 | 7 378 | 4.03 |
| Visceral leishmaniasis | 491 | 1.11 | 576 | 7.5 | 3 713 | 7.5 | 3 866 | 7.8 | 3 817 | 7.77 |
| Haemorrhagic fever | 38 | 1.11 | 42 | 5.1 | 196 | 5.1 | 65 | 1.7 | 48 | 1.53 |
| Brucellosis | 2 464 | 1.11 | 2 816 | 5.3 | 13 106 | 5.3 | 14 546 | 5.9 | 14 989 | 6.1 |
| Toxoplasmosis | 372 | 1.3 | 512 | 5.9 | 2 223 | 5.9 | 2 745 | 7.3 | 3 145 | 8.45 |
| Oedema | 370 | 1 | 406 | 4.8 | 1 787 | 4.8 | 1 991 | 5.3 | 2 108 | 5.69 |
| Scabies | 0 | 198 | 198 | 1 892 | 1 892 | 1 892 | 7 956 | 7 957 | 10 354 | 10 354 |
| Rabies | 25 | 1.4 | 37 | 10.2 | 256 | 10.2 | 84 | 3.31 | 49 | 1.96 |

| Condition | 1989 | | 1994 | | 1995 | | 1996 | | 1997 | |
|-------------------------|--------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|
| | Number | Index (1989=1) | Number | Index (1989=1) | Number | Index (1989=1) | Number | Index (1989=1) | Number | Index (1989=1) |
| Poliomyelitis | 10 | 5.3 | 53 | 5.3 | 32 | 3.2 | 20 | 2 | 31 | 3.1 |
| Diphtheria | 96 | 1.37 | 132 | 1.37 | 119 | 1.24 | 358 | 2.59 | 290 | 3.02 |
| Pertussis | 368 | 1.43 | 526 | 1.43 | 475 | 1.29 | 1 179 | 3.20 | 535 | 1.45 |
| Measles | 5 715 | 1.86 | 10 646 | 1.86 | 7 134 | 1.25 | 240 | 0.04 | 556 | 0.09 |
| Rubella | 514 | 1.14 | 584 | 1.14 | 338 | 0.66 | 23 | 0.04 | 17 | 0.03 |
| Neonatal tetanus | 42 | 2.1 | 89 | 2.1 | 64 | 1.52 | 74 | 1.76 | 73 | 1.74 |
| Tetanus | 32 | 1.19 | 38 | 1.19 | 31 | 0.97 | 12 | 0.37 | 25 | 0.78 |
| Mumps | 9 639 | 4.1 | 39 642 | 4.1 | 29 195 | 3.02 | 14 817 | 1.54 | 49 556 | 5.14 |
| Cholera | 0 | 1.345 | 1 345 | 1.345 | 1 216 | 1.216 | 831 | 831 | 486 | 486 |
| Typhoid | 1 812 | 13.48 | 24 436 | 13.48 | 26 634 | 14.70 | 16 238 | 8.41 | 14 464 | 7.98 |
| Giardiasis | 73 416 | 8.01 | 587 924 | 8.01 | 689 113 | 9.38 | 584 621 | 7.96 | 605 170 | 8.24 |
| Amebic dysentery | 19 615 | 3.92 | 76 864 | 3.92 | 668 064 | 34.06 | 543 295 | 27.7 | 329 950 | 16.82 |
| Viral hepatitis | 1 816 | 6.22 | 11 296 | 6.22 | 15 557 | 8.57 | 29 803 | 16.41 | 18 501 | 3.62 |
| Meningitis | 2 559 | 1.2 | 3 128 | 1.2 | 2 853 | 1.11 | 691 | 0.27 | 1 202 | 0.47 |
| Local malaria | 3 428 | 5.6 | 19 266 | 5.6 | 59 931 | 17.48 | 32 199 | 9.39 | 9 594 | 2.79 |
| Cutaneous leishmaniasis | 1 829 | 3.6 | 6 662 | 3.6 | 7 703 | 4.21 | 7 606 | 4.16 | 2 939 | 1.61 |
| Visceral leishmaniasis | 491 | 5.68 | 2 787 | 5.68 | 3 110 | 6.33 | 3 434 | 6.99 | 794 | 1.62 |
| Haemorrhagic fever | 38 | 1.03 | 39 | 1.03 | 48 | 1.26 | 48 | 1.26 | 11 | 0.29 |
| Brucellosis | 2 464 | 6.28 | 15 476 | 6.28 | 19 040 | 7.73 | 7 531 | 3.06 | 8 911 | 3.62 |
| Toxoplasmosis | 372 | 10.48 | 3 899 | 10.48 | 4 640 | 12.47 | 2 768 | 7.44 | 2 960 | 7.96 |
| Oedema | 370 | 6.8 | 2 520 | 6.8 | 2 908 | 7.86 | 184 | 0.49 | 257 | 0.69 |
| Scabies | 0 | 13 832 | 13 832 | 13 832 | 18 209 | 18 209 | 39 146 | 39 146 | 40 360 | 40 360 |
| Rabies | 25 | 1.28 | 32 | 1.28 | 34 | 1.36 | 23 | 0.92 | 6 | 0.24 |