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**M.G. INTERNATIONAL**  
SINCE 1891



**YOUR RELIABLE PARTNER FOR SHIPMENTS TO IRAQ**

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 NEWSLETTER

Dear Clients, Partners and Friends,  
we are pleased to update you on the current situation in Iraq as follows

### 1. Latest News

Falling oil prices affect the economy of Iraq

The falling oil prices and the cost of fighting the IS have created a cash crisis in Iraq that will affect the overall economic situation and in particular new projects.

### Battle for Tikrit

Iraqi forces have won City Al-Baghdadi back and have started a huge offensive to win Tikrit back and push IS out last week. Operation is still going on. Kirkuk-Baghdad Highway is temporary blocked for military supplying purposes. For alternative routes and details please contact us.

### 2. Upcoming holidays

► Please note the following upcoming holidays for Iraqi Kurdistan:

Liberation day of Erbil on 11<sup>th</sup> March.

Birthday of Mustafa Barzani on 14<sup>th</sup> March.

Nowrouz Holidays from 20<sup>th</sup> up to 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

### 3. Security Situation.

The following provinces are still risky: Anbar/Ninewah/Salah-al din/Diyala.

In general, there are still almost daily attacks registered in Iraq. As per now and after intensive security

checks – cargo and shipments to Airports and ports are still possible.

### 4. Border situation

Turkish / Iraqi border (Ibrahim Khalil border)

The border staff is operating normally. The truck and cargo inspections are still more detailed. The current waiting time ex Turkey towards Iraq is 3-4 days. The waiting time ex Iraq towards Turkey is 4-5 days.

Jordanian / Iraqi border (Trebil border)

The security situation is still mixed. We still do not recommend this border point at the moment as clashes are reported daily. A part of the Road from Trebil towards Baghdad is still controlled by IS. Therefore, we do not offer transports crossing this route till further notice.

### 5. Airfreight

Erbil & Sulaymaniyah Airport

Emirates Sky Cargo And Qatar Airways do not offer their services to Erbil from this week on. Limited Cargo flights are available as per below shown schedule.

Baghdad International Airport (BIAP)

BIAP is working normal. Emirates and Ethiad Airline have not yet re-started their service to

BIAP. Cargo flights are available but subject to inducement. Please check case by case with us.

### Basrah Airport

Basrah Airport is working normal and regular passenger flights are available. Cargo flights are possible on request only as per below schedule.

### 6. Umm Qassar / Khor Al Zubair ports

Both ports are working normal. Customs and all governmental receivers are proceeding with clearing and collecting / receiving the shipments. Iraqi Port Authorities have issued a new Port Tariff which is expected to be operative within the next couple of weeks.

### 7. Overland Transport.

The transportation towards Iraq via southeast Europe as well as via Trieste-Mersin Ferry is currently running well. No obstacles or delays registered.

### 8. Mersin / Iskenderun seaport

Port operations are running smoothly. No obstacles or delays registered.

### 9. New Customs / Tax Tariff

Iraqi Authorities have announced a new tariff for duties and taxes. It looks like that duties and taxes will increase significantly. No further details have been reported yet.



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Airline	To Erbil Airport	To Baghdad Airport	To Basrah Airport
Emirates Sky Cargo	**From 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2015 on no service to Erbil until further notice	Currently suspended	unrestricted operation
Lufthansa / Austrian Airlines	A319 max 150 kg/pce	no service	no service
Etihad Crystal Cargo	abandoned	abandoned	max 150 kg/pce
Royal Jordanian	abandoned	unrestricted operation	abandoned
Coyne Airways (RUS Aviaton)	1 freighter / weekly	1 freighter / weekly	on request only
Qatar Airways	**From 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2015 on no service to Erbil until further notice	4 pax weekly	4 pax weekly – PAX = max 150 kg/pce
Turkish Airlines	2 freighter + pax weekly	abandoned	abandoned

**\*\*Important notice:**

We regret having to tell you, that Emirates Sky Cargo and Qatar Airways have stopped their services to Erbil Airport starting from March 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> until further notice.

Please be informed that the route Kirkuk to Baghdad is still blocked. Our experienced service team is pleased to support you with alternative options.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

M.G. International Transports GmbH

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