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SINCE 1891



YOUR RELIABLE PARTNER FOR SHIPMENTS TO IRAQ

Aug 21st, 2015 NEWSLETTER

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

### 1. Latest News

#### ► General Situation of Iraq

The fights against IS since June 2014 have caused a clear gap in the state's budget. Therefore investments in projects have been slowed down. There is a heatwave for more than a month which is forcing the population to use cooling units over capacity. Furthermore shortages of electrical-/fuel- and fresh water supplies as well as of cash flow are registered in several regions.

#### ► Resumption of clashes between Turkish army and PKK

Since July 2015 the peace process between Turkey and PKK stopped and clashes have restarted. Main affected regions are south eastern Turkey and Turkish-Iraqi borderline. The increased security measures are currently causing delays for cargo movements

between Turkey and Iraq.

#### ► Emirates to resume flight to Baghdad

Emirates airlines has announced that it will recommence passenger flights to Baghdad from 17 September 2015. Four flights per week are scheduled.

#### ► Kirkuk-Baghdad Highway

This route is reopened again for cargo movements since July 2015.

#### ► Eid-al-Adha

Eid-al-Adha will start around 24/25 September and will end around 27/28 September. During the holidays the governmental offices will be closed. Air- and seaport operations will be slowed down.

### 2. Security Situation

The following provinces are still risky: Anbar /Salah-al din/Diyala. In general, there

are still almost daily attacks registered in Iraq. As per now - and after intensive security checks – sending shipments to Airports and Seaports is still possible.

### 3. Border situation

#### Turkish / Iraqi border (Ibrahim Khalil border)

The clashes between Turkish army and PKK are affecting this area. The border staff has tightened the security measures intensively. The current waiting time ex Turkey towards Iraq is 5-7 days. The waiting time ex Iraq towards Turkey is 9-10 days. The a.m. conditions are causing truck shortages at Mersin and Iskenderun Port. If the situation keeps the same for the upcoming weeks the truck rates are expected to increase.

#### Jordanian/Iraqi border (Trebil border)

Parts of the Road from Trebil towards Baghdad are



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still controlled by IS and/or Iraqi security forces. No improvement or development on the security situation registered locally. Therefore, we still do not offer transports crossing this route until further notice.

#### **4. Airfreight**

##### Erbil & Sulaymaniyah Airport

All operations are running smoothly. Regular passenger flights are available. Cargo flights are still available. Please check the possibilities with us case by case.

##### Baghdad International Airport (BIAP)

BIAP is working normally and regular passenger and cargo flights are available. The new customs tariff is applicable since 18 Aug 2015. Please check the possibilities with us case by case.

##### Basrah Airport

Basrah Airport is working normally and regular passenger flights are available. Cargo flights are possible on request only. Please check the possibilities with us case by case.

##### **5. Umm Qassr / Khor Al Zubair ports**

The security measures at both ports are very tight. This sometimes causes additional waiting times for trucks. But generally the operation is running smoothly.

##### **6. Mersin / Iskenderun seaport**

Port operations are running smoothly. There is a truck shortage registered at both ports due to ongoing clashes between Turkish army and PKK on the road between both ports and Turkish-iraqi border.

##### **7. Overland Transport**

The transportation towards Iraq via southeast Europe as well as via Trieste-Mersin Ferry is still running well. Obstacles or delays are registered near Turkish-Iraqi border only.

##### **8. Important Notices:**

###### New customs tariff

New tariff is still not implemented at all entry points. Please check with us case by case.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,  
M.G. International  
Transports GmbH

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