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M.G. INTERNATIONAL
SINCE 1891



YOUR RELIABLE PARTNER FOR SHIPMENTS TO IRAQ

Nov 11th, 2016 NEWSLETTER

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

1. Latest News

► New regulation for customs brokerage at Iraqi customs points

There is a new regulation which says that customs brokerage at any Iraqi point is only allowed to be effected by private customs clearance agencies instead of single customs brokers since this week. As a result the customs brokers are currently very busy with finding suitable partners to establish those companies within a short time. In the past mainly authorized single customs brokers were offering this kind of services. This is not allowed anymore.

► Update on Battle for Mosul

The operation which started on 17th October is still ongoing. The Anti-IS alliance has recaptured major areas around Mosul City

and is currently about to enter Mosul City from several directions. The fights are ongoing and are still expected to take a few more weeks. Furthermore, we expect that road blocks and limitation in the road transport in the greater Mosul area could be implemented on short notice by the Iraqi Authorities.

► Update on procedures at Al-Safra customs

The customs point is crowded but procedures are ongoing. For individual shipments arabic translation of the shipping documents might be requested by the authorities.

► Update on the new regulation of Baghdad entry- and transit permission
It has been announced that due to the high volume of the shipments the permission might not be

applicable for all shipments. Presently the priority is on sensitive periods like religious events and on sensitive cargo which could be used for attacks. Please check with our team case by case.

► Update on Arbaeeniyah and the upcoming road blockades

As per today's announcement Arbaeeniyah Days will be between 20th and 24th November. Due to sensitive security situation the road blockades for lorries and trucks around Baghdad, Najaf and Kerbala area will already start 11th and end around 26th November.

► Upcoming Holidays

20th - 24th November:

Zeyarah Arbaeeniyah Days

12th - 13th December:

The Prophet's Birthday



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2. Security Situation

The security situation is stable. The roads between KRG and Central Iraq as well as Southern Iraq are currently free of obstacles.

As per now and after intensive security checks – sending shipments to Airports and Seaports is generally possible.

However, the battle for Mosul might affect cargo movements temporarily due to military movements.

3. Border situation

Turkish / Iraqi border

The security situation is stable. The border gates are permanently open. The current waiting time ex Turkey towards Iraq and ex Iraq towards Turkey is 3-5 days. The Battle for Mosul has not affected the traffic till now.

Jordanian/Iraqi border

Border is still closed.

Still no improvement or development on the security situation, therefore we still do not offer transports crossing this route until further notice.

4. Airfreight

Erbil & Sulaymaniyah

Airport

Both Airports' operations are running smoothly as usual. No obstacles are registered. The Battle for Mosul has not affected the flight traffic till now.

Baghdad International Airport (BIAP) and Basrah

Airport

Both Airports' operations are running smoothly as usual. No obstacles are registered. The Battle for Mosul has not affected the flight traffic till now.

5. Umm Qassr/Khor Al Zubair ports

Port operations are running smoothly as usual. No obstacles are registered.

6. Mersin/Iskenderun seaport

Port operations are running smoothly as usual. No obstacles are registered.

7. Overland Transport

Cargo movements towards Iraq via southeast Europe as well as via Trieste-Mersin Ferry are running well. No obstacles are registered.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,
M.G. International
Transports GmbH

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