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**M.G. INTERNATIONAL**  
SINCE 1891



YOUR RELIABLE PARTNER FOR SHIPMENTS TO IRAQ

Aug 21st, 2017 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 governmental cargo

Iraqi Prime Minister Office has implemented a new regulation on July 1<sup>st</sup> stating that:

Effective from August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 all cargo imported to Iraq and belonging to governmental sector needs to be marked with following information:

- GOODS ARE EXEMPTED FROM DUTY AND TAX
- GOODS ARE NOT FOR SALE IN THE LOCAL MARKET
- CONSIGNEES NAME TO BE MENTIONED
- SHIPPERS NAME TO BE MENTIONED
- CONTRACT NUMBER TO BE MENTIONED

The reason behind is that Iraqi Government wants to prevent leakage and trade of goods exempted from customs fees/duties in the free market.

We are going to follow up the situation and monitor the developments carefully.

### ► Abu Ghraib Customs resume work again – other domestic customs terminals opened

Beside the border customs offices and airport customs offices the Iraqi government has opened new and reopened a few former domestic customs terminals. The domestic customs terminals have got the task to re-inspect shipments which have already been cleared at other customs points but which documents' show discrepancies or seem to be suspicious. Those shipments will be redirected to the domestic terminals like e.g. Abu Ghraib customs. The procedures there will be similar to customs clearance procedures at other customs points. After the re-inspection cargo will be released for

further delivery to final destination.

### ► Update on Battle for Mosul

The completed liberation of Mosul City has been announced by the Iraqi government a few weeks ago. The supply of aid equipment as well as smaller local rebuilding works are ongoing. Please note that road blockages and limitation in the road transport in the greater Mosul/Nineveh governorate area could be implemented on short notice by the Iraqi Authorities.

### ► Ashura Road Blockages

Road blockages are expected to start around September 15<sup>th</sup> and expected to be lifted around October 5<sup>th</sup>. We will inform you once the final dates are officially announced.



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### ► Eid al Adha Holidays

From September 01<sup>st</sup> till September 09<sup>th</sup> 2017 most of the governmental authorities are closed. They will resume work on September 10<sup>th</sup>. During the holidays the ports will continue to discharge ships but will slow down operations clearly. However, customs clearing will only be possible after the holidays. We expect a backlog and delays in customs clearing and cargo movements after the holidays.

### ► Upcoming Public Holidays

Sept 01<sup>st</sup>-04<sup>th</sup>: Eid Al-Adha  
Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>: Islamic New Year  
Sept 30<sup>th</sup>: Ashura Day

## 2. Security Situation

### Iraq

The security situation is improving. Major obstacles are registered on Mosul-Baghdad road and on Trebil-Baghdad road.

## 3. Border situation

### Turkish/Iraqi border

The security situation is currently stable and the border gates are permanently open. The current waiting time ex Turkey towards Iraq and ex Iraq towards Turkey is 2-4 days.

### Jordanian/Iraqi border

Border is still not opened yet. We will update you in case if any development.

## 4. Airfreight

### Erbil/Sulaymaniyah/Baghdad /Basrah Airport

All Airports' operations are running smoothly and no obstacles are registered.

## 5. Oceanfreight

### Umm Qassr/Khor Al Zubair Seaport

Port operations are running smoothly and no obstacles are registered.

### Mersin/Iskenderun seaport

Port operations are running smoothly and no obstacles are registered.

## 6. Overland Transport

### RoRo Ferry Trieste-Mersin and Route via Balkan

Cargo movements via Trieste-Mersin RoRo Ferry are running smoothly and no obstacles are registered.

Thank you for your attention.  
Yours sincerely,  
M.G. International Transports GmbH

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