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M.G. INTERNATIONAL
SINCE 1891



YOUR RELIABLE PARTNER FOR SHIPMENTS TO IRAQ

October 16th, 2018 NEWSLETTER

Dear Clients, Partners and Friends,

we are pleased to update you on the current situation in Iraq as follows:

1. Latest News

New Iraqi Government

The formation of the new Iraqi Government is still ongoing. The Parliament has elected Mr Barham Saleh as the new President. Furthermore, Mr. Adel Abd Mehdi (a former Minister of Oil) has been nominated to form the new Iraqi Government. All going well, the new government should be in place by early November.

Safra Clearance Point closed- New checkpoints established

Effectively October 6th 2018, the customs clearance station at Safra ("Safra Checkpoint") is closed. At the same time, Iraqi customs has opened three new customs checkpoints, they are located at:

SHERWA – between Erbil and Kirkuk (1 km n/o Kirkuk)

LEELAN- between Sulaimaniyah and Kirkuk (5 km e/o Kirkuk)

FAYDAH-between Dohuk and Mosul (10 km n/o Mosul City)

The documentary requirements remain unchanged.

2. Ashura

Due Ashura huge numbers of pilgrims will move from all parts of Iraq, but in particular from the southern parts, towards Najaf and Kerbala. The peak of Ashura will be from Oct 25th till Nov 4th 2018. Within this period, we expect roadblocks in the southern and central part of Iraq. Truck movements to the Kerbala, Najaf and in the entire southern region are limited and on certain days not possible.

3. Certificate of Origin.

The Iraqi General Customs has announced revised instructions for the Certificate of Origins related to the import of goods for the private sector. According to those instructions, Imports for the private sector do NOT require anymore the legalization of the CoO by the

Iraqi Consulate. A legalization by the Chamber of Commerce and e.g. the Arab-German Chamber of Commerce "GHORFA" are sufficient.

However, we expect specific handling instructions in this regard in the near future.

For the governmental cargoes, nothing has changed, still legalized documents are required.

4. Expected changes for Imports to Iraq

► Governmental entities sent letters to suppliers

Some ministries (e.g. Ministry of Electricity) informed their suppliers that rules and regulations for 2019 might change. The Ministries asked the supplier to complete the shipments of current contract within this year.

We assume that the main reason for this request is, that all DEL & TEL granted in 2018 will be nil and void in 2019 and need to be

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renewed by the importers (same situation as in January / 2018). In addition Importers have to consider that new import regulations (customs regulations) will be implemented from 01.01.2019 onwards. So far these new regulations and Port tariffs are not yet distributed.

We recommend that you ship your goods in time to Iraq to ensure a clearing of the goods within the first half of December and deliver the goods within this year. Or to wait till the new rules and regulations for 2019 will be announced to avoid possible delays and costs, particular at Umm Qassr Port.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

M.G. International Transports

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