







YOUR RELIABLE PARTNER FOR SHIPMENTS TO IRAQ

December 012th 2023 NEWSLETTER

Dear Clients, Partners and Friends,

we like to update you regularly on the day-to-day situation.

1. Levy Exemption

Please consider that most of levy exemptions will expire by the end of this year. For the new year 2024 it is required to renew the Levy and Tax Exemptions. Therefore, we recommend not ship cargo without having a valid Levy Exemption and sub to contract, also Tax Exemption. Without a valid levy and tax exemption port storage charge may apply.

Currently customs clearing based on commitment letter is working for Government Shipments.

For private Sector shipment, clearing is with immediate effect only possible with legalized documents. The previous rule (IQD 1.0m fine for non-legalized docs clearing) is not allowed anymore. This will also apply for DDP shipments.

2. North Customs UMQ

South Customs has re-structured the various customs offices at UMQ Port. Now, North Customs and Mid Customs are jointed to UMQ North Customs Office". The previous Mid Customs office is currently still used for Min of Health imports as well as for Vehicle Trader Imports. All other operation incl at berth 27 is now under North Customs. This helps a lot as levy exemptions are valid now for all "North Customs" Offices.

3. New Rate of Exchange

The IRQ Government has released instructions related to USD Payments in Iraq. For example, foreign transfers in/out of Iraq are limited. USD withdraw from bank accounts is heavily restricted, cash payments e.g. for trucking services, port charge and even for the payment of fuel is limited or not possible anymore. Furthermore, based on an instruction of the Council of Ministers, the Iraqi Central Bank set a new rate of exchange for the Iraqi Dinar. Based on this instruction, the new ROE is 1\$=1,310 IQD. Official instruction letter is available upon request.

4. Local Elections / Holidays

Local Governorate Elections are taking place on or around Dec 17th. Therefore, IRQ Gov announced holidays from Dec 15th till Dec 19th 2023. Furthermore, Dec 25th is a holiday as well.

5. End of Year Holiday

Iraqi Customs and also most of IRQ Ministries and bank will stop working around Dec 27th due to end of year account balancing.

6. Iraqi Seaports

Umm Qassr Port is working on normal level. No major congestion is recognized, storage of uncleared cargo has significantly been reduced.









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8. Ibrahim Khalil Border

Border clearing process is working smoothly.

Enroute from KRG Region to Central and Southern parts of the countries, still checkpoints are available. Goods and status of the cargo are being checked incl. status of customs cleared goods.

9. Trebil border

Trebil Border is working normally. There are no major waiting times or delays. It is still required to transship cargo from Jordanian to Iraqi trucks at the border. Currently we are using this route again for MoH Cargo. Please feel free to contact us in case of any specific question and please stay safe and healthy.

Yours sincerely,

M.G. International Transports

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