



REPUBLIC OF IRAQ MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Press Release

For Immediate Release

January 23, 2006

Iraq Confirms the Closing of Debt-for-Debt Exchange Offer

<u>Baghdad, Iraq</u>: The Republic of Iraq today confirmed the closing of its commercial debt-for-debt exchange offer.

As previously announced, 100% of the claimants with offers on the tender due date tendered approximately \$14 billion in eligible commercial claims pursuant to the terms of the exchange offer.

Upon the closing of the offer today, all claimants received either privately-placed U.S. dollar-denominated notes with an aggregate principal amount of \$2,658,929,000, or an interest in a multicurrency loan with an initial principal amount of approximately \$177 million. The exchange offer therefore resulted in a net reduction of Iraq's debt equal to approximately \$11 billion. Further notes up to an additional \$800 million may be issued in exchange for other debt-eligible outstanding claims on the same terms.

The International Securities Identification Numbers (ISIN) for the Regulation S and 144A tranches of the new notes are XS0240295575 and XS0240295658, respectively.

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