

General Conference

GC(48)/INF/9

Date: 31 August 2004

General Distribution

English

Original: Arabic

Forty-eighth regular session

Item 5 of the provisional agenda
(GC(48)/1)

Text of communication of 11 March 2004 received from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq concerning restoration of voting rights

The text of a letter dated 11 March 2004 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq and addressed to the Director General is reproduced herewith for the attention of the General Conference.

REPUBLIC OF IRAQ
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Minister's Office

The International Atomic Energy Agency suspended Iraq's voting right in 1993 owing to Iraq's failure to pay its share of the Agency's budget.

Iraq would like to restore its voting right in order to be able to play its role in this important international organization in an optimum manner. In view of Iraq's inability to allocate funds in this year's budget to pay the arrears in its contributions and the country's current exceptional circumstances, the Government of the Republic of Iraq would be grateful if the International Atomic Energy Agency would decide to exempt Iraq from paying its financial contributions due this year and postpone payment of its contributions to next year (2005) in accordance with Article XIX of the Agency's Statute.

We hope that you will consider our request favourably and take a positive decision in this regard.

(signed) Hoshyar ZEBARI
Minister of Foreign Affairs